



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

I trust this email finds you well and that you are enjoying your summer. We are eager to welcome back students and staff. Despite our challenges in the fight against the transmission of COVID-19, I continue to approach the school year with a great deal of enthusiasm. Below are important updates regarding the rollout of the school reopening plans.

Communication Process

Contained in this email is a summary of our school reopening plan. A more detailed and comprehensive plan will be distributed before the opening of the school year, and I plan to host community information sessions **on Tuesday, August 31st** via zoom. The district has not yet received information from the New Jersey Department of Education regarding required quarantines for in-school close contacts. Furthermore, I **do not** plan to present on the topic of school reopening at tomorrow evening's meeting of the Board of Education. Instead, I look forward to engaging with you on this topic once all of the necessary completed information has been received.

Summary

The following list contains firm information of what we do know at this time. Together, with members of the administrative team and our school nursing staff, the district will be implementing the following plans and procedures.

1. All students and staff will return to school for a half-day schedule on **Wednesday, September 8th**. Full-day schedules will begin on **Thursday, September 9th**, as follows:

Haddon Township High School	7:40 am-2:25pm
Rohrer Middle School	8:20 am-3pm
Elementary Schools	8:30 am-3pm
Kindergarten	8:30 am-11:00am & 12:30pm-3pm
Pre-K	8:30 am-11:00am & 12:30pm-3pm
PSD	9 am-11 am

2. All individuals inside the school district buildings and on buses are required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status to comply with Governor Murphy's Executive Order. The circumstances where masks will **not** be required include: when eating, while outside on grounds, or participating in high-intensity physical activity, or when employees are alone in a classroom or office.

3. Student social distancing will be at 3 feet **or to the maximum extent possible** while in the classroom or cafeteria. When 3 feet distance cannot be implemented while eating in the cafeteria without a mask, alternate eating areas such as classrooms or offices will be made available to students to ensure safe distancing.

4. Student lunches will be accessible to all students at no cost during the 2021-2022 school year due to federal programming and the pandemic relief funds for schools and families.

5. The school district will continue with the comprehensive cleaning, hand washing, and hygiene protocols implemented during the 2021-2022 school year. However, the classroom desk divider partitions will only be utilized in unique spaces where we cannot achieve 3 feet of distance, i.e.) guided reading, speech therapy, etc.

6. Parents should monitor their children daily for signs of illness and should not send their children to school if they are ill. School nurses should be contacted when there are questions or concerns.

7. At this time, there is no travel advisory in effect. Students that travel over Labor Day weekend are eligible to attend school, and there will be no quarantine restrictions in place, providing there are no symptoms of illness.

8. Approximately 95% of all district staff are vaccinated against Covid-19. Our school nursing staff will be working with the district staff to update and maintain such records. According to the New Jersey COVID-19 dashboard, 65% of all Haddon Township residents are fully vaccinated.

More comprehensive information will be shared with you as it becomes available before the end of this month. Please stay tuned for my zoom invitation for community engagement parent forums tentatively scheduled for August 31st.

Goals

As we prepare for the year ahead, please know that we will balance priorities to ensure student safety with our commitment to maximizing learning for every child to their fullest potential. To accomplish this, we will need to be open-minded and agile in our approach, and nimble when adapting to new data over the course of the coming weeks and months. Please expect our plan to adapt and evolve throughout the year. Due to distinct developmental differences and vaccine eligibility, it will not be one size fits all for every grade level and classroom. I sincerely appreciate your patience, understanding, and support as we prepare for another school year.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed.D.
Superintendent