

POMPTON LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442

(973) 835-7100

August 31, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As we approach the start of a very different school year, I am writing to provide an update and to also seek your assistance.

As we have shared with you previously, the district is scheduled to reopen schools on September 8, 2020. For details regarding the district's reopening, please feel free to review [The Pompton Lakes School Reopening Plan September 2020](#). Since the release of the plan, we received additional guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH). [NJDOH Public Health Recommendations for K-12 Schools](#). The document provides information related to the procedures school districts will follow in the event of a student or staff member testing positive for Coronavirus. The NJDOH divides the state of New Jersey into 6 regions; we are located in the Northwest Region. On a weekly basis, the NJDOH provides a rating for each region (green=low risk, yellow=moderate risk, orange=high risk and red=very high risk). As of the writing of this letter our region is green (low risk).

As part of Governor Murphy's reopening instructions, parents were given the option to choose an all-virtual program. The district allowed parents close to two weeks to register. Students enrolled in this program are expected to remain in it for the first 10 weeks of school. To date, approximately 27% of our students are enrolled in this program.

In order to make the reopening as safe as practicable, we need our parents and students to assist us. I ask that you carefully review this list.

1. Parents must screen their children daily. We ask parents to use the following questionnaire as a guide, [Daily COVID Screening Survey for Parents to Use](#).
2. If your child is sick, you must keep them home from school. Please be sure to call your school's nurse to report the absence.
3. Students will need to wear face coverings during the entire period of in-person learning. We ask parents to please work with your child to find a face covering that is most suitable and comfortable. Please be sure your child has a face covering each day, having multiple coverings would be even better (in case one breaks or is uncomfortable). The wearing of face coverings will be strictly enforced.
4. We strongly recommend each child bring a refillable water bottle with them to school (pre-filled). Some days in September can be warm and we want to ensure students are hydrated. While

traditional hallway drinking fountains have been closed, each building has touchless bottle filler stations for students.

5. Please be sure to follow instructions for daily drop off and pick up from the building principal. It is important these procedures are followed.
6. Each school will provide additional information regarding procedures unique to the school. Please read everything carefully and contact the school with questions.
7. We all have a part in helping to maintain the safety of everyone. Please assist us in this endeavor.

Finally, we did make one adjustment to our opening week schedule. During the days of September 8,9,10 and 11, our teaching and support staff will be involved in additional staff training for much of the time after the in-person portion of the school day ends. This is only for the first week of school. Dismissal times on these days have not changed, however during much of the afternoon session, teachers will be involved in additional planning and training. Again, this is only for the first four school days.

I hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and safe and we look forward to the reopening of school.

Sincerely,

Paul Amoroso
Superintendent of Schools

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