

GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 16, 2021

Welcome Back! It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome all students and staff back to the Greenwich Township School District for the 2021-2022 school year. We look forward to seeing everyone back in our buildings as we return to a more traditional school schedule and as changing circumstances and conditions allow. Our goal is to offer as many educational opportunities, both curricular and extra-curricular, as is possible during this school year. You can assist us in that goal by engaging in safe, healthy practices in our community so that we can minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission within our schools.

We will continue to monitor the conditions within our District, our County, and the State of New Jersey. Any decisions made to alter our calendar, bell schedules, instructional planning, or procedures will be made with guidance from the Governor, the Department of Education, the Department of Health, and/or local authorities, including our own medical personnel.

In order to support the health and safety of our students and staff during the 2021-2022 school year, our District will continue to implement commonsense health protocols and procedures as appropriate and practical. This includes social distancing, frequent handwashing/sanitizing, and use of targeted cleaning procedures. Some curricular restrictions may apply to limit the use of shared objects, to maximize social distancing when feasible, or to limit respiratory exposure. Desk shields will be utilized in classrooms and seating restrictions will be imposed in classrooms and during lunches to reduce student contact. Per federal law, cloth face coverings will be required during transportation on all school buses. Per requirements set forth by the Governor of New Jersey in Executive Order #251, **all students and staff will be required to wear a cloth face mask inside school buildings.** In the event of individual need, please contact your school building to request a free face mask.

All parents and guardians will be required to sign and return a COVID-19 information form. This does not request or require information regarding vaccines, but instead, identifies common COVID-19 symptoms, identifies basic contact tracing quarantine information, and acknowledges the need for those experiencing any symptom to remain at home to reduce the possibility of transmission to other students and our staff. We will not be requiring a parental daily health screener.

The Greenwich Township School District must ensure the confidentiality of student and staff information, including such medical information as a positive COVID-19 diagnosis. This means some COVID-19 information is not communicated with the public and we cannot correct misinformation that has been circulated. Only those individuals identified as having close contact with a verified COVID+ individual will be notified to quarantine.

As we continue to follow established protocols, any student exhibiting one or more Covid-like symptoms may be excluded from school for a period of time determined by the guidelines provided by the CDC, the DOH, and/or in conjunction with a case-by-case review by district staff. To assist our efforts to maintain a safe, healthy environment at school, please keep any student who exhibits any possible symptom at home.

During the course of the school year, please reach out to the appropriate school personnel for questions or concerns. Individual teachers can be reached through their email or via phone at their assigned school building at 224-4900. Members of our Child Study Team can be reached at their individual extensions or through the CST secretary, Mrs. Lavin, at x2160. School Nurses can be reached at: BSS Mrs. Pipczynski x1113, and NMS Mrs. Camp at x2137. Guidance counselors can be reached at: BSS Mrs. Laird x1136, and NMS Mr. Giorgianni x 2135. Main Office extensions for each school are as follows: BSS x1131 and NMS x2140.

The District has again contracted with Acenda to provide confidential counseling support services for students and their families. If your child is experiencing emotional or mental health concerns, please reach out to our School Social Worker, Mrs. Dresh at x 2160 or your child's guidance counselors for access to these therapeutic counseling resources.

Thank you for all that you have done in the past and all that you will continue to do to support our efforts to keep our students and staff safe during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Foley-Hindman