



David N. Gentile, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

329 Route 73
Voorhees, NJ 08043

April 14, 2021

Dear Parents & Guardians,

As you are aware, the fourth marking period begins Monday, April 19, 2021, and we will be transitioning to a 5 day a week in-person learning schedule. Additionally, until further notice, the current early dismissal schedule will remain in effect.

I want to review what to expect for your child as we begin the next phase in our Restart, Renew & Engage Plan. Students remaining fully remote will not experience any change in their current learning schedule. Students returning for in-person learning will begin attending five days per week on Monday. This will eliminate the need for the hybrid schedule and cohort placements. Please remember the schedule you have selected for your child will remain in effect for the 4th Marking Period. To accommodate the more significant number of students returning for in-person learning, we cannot accommodate requests to change from remote learning to in-person learning after Monday, April 19; however, if you select in-person learning for your child and decide to return to a remote learning schedule that is permissible.

We are excited about moving to the next phase in our plan. Many students are selecting to return to in-person instruction for the 4th Marking Period. Classrooms will be limited to no more than 25 students, with the majority averaging 15 students. We will continue to implement all safety measures to decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Students and staff will be required to wear a mask at all times, our buildings will be cleaned frequently, and air quality will be maintained to the highest level possible. The new Center for Disease Control guidelines allow for 3 feet for social distancing, and we will adopt that recommendation. During snack time, students will be seated a minimum of 3 feet apart. Whenever possible, we will strive for 6 feet of distance, especially for our middle school students. Student desk shields will be used during snack time and instruction at the teacher's discretion.

We are asking parents to continue to transport their children to school whenever possible. However, if your child is typically a bus rider, they can ride the bus to school. If your child has been remote and you are not sure of their assigned bus, you can locate their assignment in Genesis. Should you need assistance with transportation, please contact your child's school. Students riding a bus to school will be expected to wear face-covering at all times. The windows on the busses will be lowered to allow fresh air. The transportation

company will follow all mandates from the NJ Health Department and Center for Disease Control. The busses are cleaned between each bus run to support the health and safety of the students.

If you have any questions regarding your child's class size or schedule, please contact your child's school for assistance. Each school will be sending building specific information this week. I am confident that our schools can operate safely by following the established plans. Currently, Camden County is in the Orange Category on the risk matrix, which results in additional recommendations that will be followed to every extent possible, but please understand that these are recommendations, not mandates. If you are uncomfortable with any portion of the in-person plan, we respect your decision and right to select a remote learning schedule. Our remote learners are equal members of our school community.

I am sure you will agree that the Voorhees Township staff has done an excellent job throughout the pandemic. Their dedication and effort are greatly appreciated!

Transition to 5 Days a Week In-Person Learning at a Glance:

- Begins on April 19, 2021
- Students are either fully remote or 5 days of in-person instruction for the 4th Marking Period
- The choice to attend in-person or remotely will be for the entire marking period (approximately 7 weeks)
- We will adhere to the CDC mandates. We will maintain 3 feet for social distancing in the schools whenever possible (striving for 6 feet when feasible)
- All current safety protocols will remain in place

If you have any questions, please contact my office or your child's school.

Regards,

David Gentile

Dr. Gentile