

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools

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August 20, 2021

Dear SPF Community,

We hope you're as excited about the start of school as we are! A new school year brings opportunities for learning, friendship, discoveries, connections and growth. We have learned much over the past eighteen months about COVID-19, mitigation strategies, and how to safely operate schools. The District is committed to safely providing our students with as much normalcy as possible that supports their academic, social and emotional needs.

Below are highlights for a safe and successful return to school. Additional details from your child's school will be shared directly by building principals.

- Schools will be open 5 full days for in person learning starting September 9. Visit our district website www.spfk12.org on a regular basis for information and updates.
- Per Governor Murphy's August 6 mandate, masking is mandatory for all students, staff and visitors regardless of vaccination status.
- All students are expected to attend school in person for the 2021-22 school year. Remote instruction will **ONLY** be provided to students who test positive for COVID-19, or are required to quarantine due to exposure. Access to this form of instruction will **NOT** be available on a daily or ongoing basis for any other circumstances.
- The District will maximize social distancing.
- Lunch periods are being adapted to safely support serving meals during the school day.
- The Daily Symptom Screening form will be replaced by a Monthly Screening form.
- Parents will be required to notify their school of potential COVID-19 exposure or positive COVID-19 test results.
- Gym and hallway lockers will be used at the high school level.
- Only hallway lockers will be used at the middle school level.
- Transportation will resume with universal masking, assigned seats, social distancing, and open windows.
- All extra-curricular activities will run as close to normal as possible.
- Extensive cleaning and hygiene protocols will continue.
- Air quality is continuously being monitored.

We look forward to working together to continue the momentum and commitment to starting the school year strong. I hope you enjoy the remaining days of summer.

Be well and stay safe.

Best,

Dr. Joan Mast

Superintendent of Schools