

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

512 Cedar Street
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076

Joan Mast, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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April 28, 2021

Dear SPF Community,

This week, with the governor's announcement of additional openings in the state and in conjunction with the district's continued focus on opening more fully when possible, we have made the decision to take the necessary steps to prepare our five elementary schools to return to a full day schedule beginning May 17th should conditions permit. The prerequisites necessary to open are: the COVID-19 activity level must be in the yellow/moderate zone; and, the COVID indicators have to be trending in a favorable direction. If needed, our plans will be adapted in response to evolving public health metrics. In anticipation of predicted improving conditions, our principals have been putting the necessary plans into place. The administrative team is also working with transportation, food service and facilities to ensure another successful pivot.

At any time, elementary parents can change from remote learning to in-person instruction by reaching out to your building principals and giving a week's notice. The principals will communicate the logistics of serving lunch because of the variations in building layout.

The middle schools, including grade 5, will continue to operate on the current schedule at this time due to scheduling considerations, larger overall school population, and capacity restrictions during lunch. The high school continues running on a nearly typical schedule where students experience their scheduled classes while taking their lunch at home and no changes will be made between now and the end of the school year.

The last date for middle school and high school students to let their principals know they are returning to in-person instruction is April 30th for a return date of May 10th.

We are aware that taking this next step is not without its challenges but we know that if the conditions are favorable the experience will serve our students well.

Your commitment to putting our students first is the quality that makes our district schools a positive place for teaching and learning. Your continued cooperation and dedication are needed and valued.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joan Mast

Superintendent