



September 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I look forward to welcoming you back to the District on September 9, 2020. Certainly, much thoughtful work and planning has evolved in the last few months. I am deeply indebted to the staff members and parents who have informed our work at developing in person and remote programs for your children.

Below I'll take an opportunity to apprise you of important District information.

#### Health Information

Someone connected to a staff orientation program last week that predominantly took place at Delran High School tested positive for COVID-19. Pursuant to contact tracing procedures, those that were in "close contact" (which is defined as within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes in one setting) was notified by a member of the central office administration and executed accordingly. While spacing protocols in the manner in which we conducted our programs and sessions were appropriate, inclusive of notification and advisement protocols to the District, it is important to follow CDC safeguards such as:

- Staying home while you are sick
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils; practice social distancing
- Wearing a face covering while in school
- Continue to monitor your own health and symptoms

If you have a specific question regarding the information above I am happy to field and answer it to the extent that I can given privacy standards set forth in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

#### Stress Free Temperature Scanning

We've come to understand that our incoming children are growing inquisitive about the temperature screening process. The process in itself will take 3 to 5 seconds and is a stress free process.

[HERE](#) is a video that shows what our temperature kiosks look like and how long the process takes.

The temperature scanners are touchless and take a temperature of each person at the wrist prior to being cleared. We do understand that this is going to become a function of our “new normal” and will do our best to calm the children. If you could do the same with them that would be most appreciated.

#### 2020-2021 Master Schedule: DMS and DHS

In order to provide multiple platforms available for student learning for the upcoming school year the District has a master schedule at the middle and high school that does entail students that are assigned to remote instruction being given access to stream into classrooms as live instruction is taking place. **I'd like to reinforce that this access is for students only and it is not appropriate for parents to question teachers as live instruction is taking place under these conditions.**

#### 2020-2021 Digital Student Learning Expectations

[HERE](#) is a document that outlines the expectations we have of the students we serve from a digital learning perspective. It's imperative that students and parents understand what is expected of them.

#### Coming Soon! District Closing Digital Divide

In November, the District will begin its distribution of Chromebooks to each student. More information will be coming shortly regarding the logistics regarding device pickup and distribution. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate our technology during this time period.

#### Instructional Technology in School

With the shortage of Chromebooks, we will have Chromebooks assigned to specific classrooms in grades 3-12 for student usage. With that being said, since we will not be 1:1 until November, remote work will be posted in Canvas with many activities being done in person on the hybrid model.

#### District Implements Canvas Learning Management System to Engage Parents and Students

The new Canvas Learning Management system is what students, teachers, and parents will be using as our learning platform on both hybrid or remote learning schedules. This platform will allow us to better communicate with parents and students regarding what students are learning, how they are learning it, and when it is due.

[HERE](#) is a video that will walk you through how to help your child login to Canvas for the first time and locate his/her Google Meet in his/her Calendar in Canvas for the first day of school!

Please login a few days before school starts in case we need to help you troubleshoot your child's account. The video will explain in greater detail. We ask you to please watch.

We are extremely excited to welcome back our students but understand there might be technical difficulties during the first few weeks. Please watch the video above as we explain about curriculum, instruction, and technology during the opening weeks of school and how students and parents can get help no matter what schedule they are on!

#### Parent and Student Resources for Using Canvas

- [Parent and Student Guidebook for Canvas](#) (Please review)
- [District Canvas Website](#)

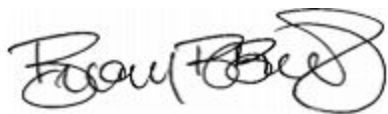
#### Curriculum and Instruction Update

The district is committed to providing high quality instruction during the 2020-2021 school year. The district is implementing the Canvas Learning Management System, new technology programs and has spent a significant amount of time with teachers this summer examining curriculum gaps from the spring and prioritized standards, using national and state resources, across grade levels and subject areas to provide high quality instruction for all of our students.

In saying that, the first few weeks of school will be focused on the social emotional health of our students as they reenter our buildings for the first time since March. We will also be training our students on how to use these new digital technologies that will create an amazing learning environment for the rest of the year. This will give all of our students equitable access to our curriculum.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through any technical difficulties for the first few weeks. In Canvas, there is a help button that will give you many options for support whether it is a technology issue or instruction issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Brotschul". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Brian Brotschul, Ed D.  
Superintendent of Schools