

DELRAN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

52 Hartford Rd., Delran NJ, 08075

"dedicated to nurturing a supportive, student-centered environment where all people are treated with dignity and respect"

November 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the first marking period and trimester comes to a close we are able to reflect on our first two months in school and identify a host of experiences across the District as we opened up our doors to in-person instruction, on time. Of course, the ability to do so was contingent upon a coordinated effort amongst 100 stakeholders across the District to ensure that the health and safety of all its stakeholders - students and employees alike - remained our paramount focus. I was pleased then - and continue to be - with the effort and dedication of all involved to provide outstanding experiences to students across the District.

Delran Township comprises 3.5% of Burlington County and over the course of September and October produced 7.5% of the cases in Burlington County. At the District level we have had 49 COVID-19 positive individuals; we've quarantined 525 students and staff members (nearly 25%) as close contacts to COVID-19 positive individuals; we have ordered mandatory closures for three out of four of our schools due to an increase in COVID-19 cases while continuing in person instruction.

As we balance in-person instruction with safety, we have realized that although our safety protocols have worked by not having any teachers infect a child or any child infect a teacher. Additionally, we have assumed the responsibility of managing community or family born cases as they become connected to our instructional program overall. It has proved difficult to sustain an in-person program.

Over the last fourteen days Delran Township Public Schools has had 21 COVID-19 positive cases. In an examination of each case at each school, coupled with the Delran Township trend of increased cases and the coming Thanksgiving holiday and Winter Recess, the following modifications are being made to the instructional program:

- **Delran High School:** Full remote instructional schedule for every child except self-contained special education from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. Self-contained classes will continue to be held in person. All students will return on January 19, 2021.
- **Delran Middle School:** Full remote instructional schedule for every child except self-contained special education from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. Self-contained classes will continue to be held in person. All students will return on January 19, 2021.
- **Delran Intermediate School:** Full remote instructional schedule for every child except self-contained special education from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. Self-contained classes will continue to be held in person. All students will return on January 19, 2021. December 14th-18th will be single session remote days due to virtual parent-teacher conferences.

- **Millbridge Elementary School:** Full remote instructional schedule for every child except pre-school and self-contained special education from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. Preschool and self-contained classes will be held in person. All students will return on January 19, 2021. December 14th-18th will be single session remote days due to virtual parent-teacher conferences.

Below is information regarding the full remote schedules for each school:

- [Delran High School](#)
- [Delran Middle School](#)
- [Delran Intermediate School](#)
- [Millbridge Elementary School](#)

Extra-Curricular Activities

During this time any extracurricular activities that operate virtually will continue to do so. The fall season and participation in state playoffs have concluded for each of the athletic teams at Delran High School. Although the seasons did not end in the fashion that the student-athletes and coaches planned, I am thankful for the time they did have together. I sincerely wish there was more for each athlete and coach.

With the winter sports season approaching for Delran High School, all coaches have been approved and facilities at Delran Middle School have been prepared for our high school program. However, I expect the NJSIAA to communicate their path on November 20, 2020 which will clarify the winter program based on the most current public health factors. They've advised us to remain flexible with respect to the winter program and we will remain so in our deliberations with safety and continuity in mind.

Department of Student Services Information

During this time of virtual learning, the self-contained and preschool classrooms will still attend school face-to-face. Transportation will continue. The classrooms that will attend school, are as follows:

- Millbridge: Mrs. Cahill, Mrs. Caiazza, Mrs. Williams and Ms. Walsh
- DIS: Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Lindle and Ms. Willams
- DMS: Mrs. Forsythe
- DHS: Mrs. Juliani and Mrs. Brettell

For students that have an in class (ICR) or pull out (POR) resource on their IEPs, students will receive virtual instruction daily. This will be facilitated by the special education teacher assigned to your child. All IEP goals and objectives will be followed and monitored.

Guidance and Nursing services will continue to be offered to students. Guidance and counseling services will be conducted via phone calls and google meets.

All IEP meetings will continue to be offered virtually or via conference call. Case managers are available to assist families during this time of virtual learning. Please contact your child's case manager with any questions or concerns.

Twilight Program

The district is offering a supplemental program after school for students who have demonstrated an academic need during the first marking period. Participation in this program is imperative as it relates to

your child's academic success. This program will continue to be offered during virtual learning. Administration from your child's school will be in contact with you about the start of this program by next week.

Food Services and Distribution

All food service and distribution will continue for those who qualify for Wednesday distribution; regular communication will continue to follow from Brian Stolarick. All self-contained special education students will receive breakfast and lunch at school.

In summary, please know that this measure is the last of the preferred options. However, given the state of COVID-19 in Delran Township specifically, coupled with the projections through the next 60 days, all Delran Township Public Schools will pivot to a 100% remote model on November 16, 2020.

Lastly, to the students in the District, particularly those 2,200 that arrived for our hybrid program this year and members of the DHS Class of 2021, please know that the District thinks about you constantly and looks forward to an in-person return on January 19, 2021. I wish conditions could have allowed for a full year in person program. I ask that you continue your efforts virtually in the coming weeks.

Further communication will be forthcoming from your child's Principal this weekend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Brotschul". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Brotschul" clearly distinguishable.

Brian Brotschul, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools