



## Secaucus Public Schools

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Superintendent of Schools  
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October 30, 2020

Dear Secaucus School District Community,

As we move closer to the start of winter season, we continue to update and enhance our *The Road Back Plan*, using feedback from staff, students, and community members. Since executing our Phase 1 Plan, I remained in constant communication with our Board of Education Trustees, our SEA Members, Mayor and Town Council Liaison, and the Hudson County Superintendent's Office. This plan is constantly reviewed, assessed, and updated to fit the needs of our staff and students, while ensuring everyone's health and safety.

Although we were optimistic we would be able to move to our Phase 2 plan after the November break, we feel that moving to Phase 2 at this time is not the best option for our school community. As a district, we have decided to change our instructional days from our hybrid model to **Full Virtual Instruction beginning November 9th and running through January 15th**. This "***Phase 1B***" was added to our plan as New Jersey begins to see an upward trajectory in positive cases, which has directly affected all of our schools. We will remain in Phase 1B through January 15th, when we will reassess our plan and decide what is the best next step for our staff, students, and community. We understand that many of you already began to plan for the winter and this decision may require you to update those plans. Due to an overabundance of caution, we feel this is the safest and best decision for all our staff and students. As I have stated in previous correspondences, we want to ensure that our process follows strict CDC safety guidelines for everyone's health and safety.

In the coming days, you will be receiving information from your child's individual schools on the specific schedule that your student will be required to virtually follow starting on Monday, November 9th. For high school students, this update will include a return to athletics timeline, as well. If you have any further questions and concerns, we encourage you to contact your child's school's main office.

As always, we share your frustrations and appreciate your constant support and patience during these unprecedented times. We anxiously await the return to normality, but in the meantime, we need to stay vigilant and understand that safety must come first.

Be safe everyone,

*Jennifer Montesano*  
Jennifer Montesano  
Superintendent of Secaucus Schools