



Secaucus Public Schools

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February 19, 2021

Dear Secaucus School District Community,

As we progress through the second half of the 2020-2021 school year, we continue to update and enhance our Board of Education approved *The Road Back Plan*. During the development of this updated plan, I remained in constant communication with our Board of Education Trustees, our SEA Members, Mayor and Council Liaison, and the Hudson County Superintendent's Office. This plan was updated taking the science behind COVID-19 into account and the suggestions and mandates from both the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health. As always, together with our constituents and our Pandemic Response Teams, we are confident in a successful return to in-person instruction for our students in March.

As a district, we have decided to welcome our students back to school on March 8th to a 4-hour in-person instructional day, with a continuation of remote instruction at home in the afternoon. This "*Phase 3*" was added to our plan because even as New Jersey appears to see an increase in vaccine distribution, it is a virus that has a constantly changing landscape. We will remain in Phase 3 through April 2nd, when we will reassess our plan and decide what is the next best step for our staff, students, and community. As I have stated in previous correspondences, we want to ensure that our process follows strict social distancing and CDC safety guidelines for everyone's health and safety.

In the coming days, **you will be receiving information from your child/children's individual schools on the logistics of returning**, which will include instructional and student schedules, paperwork for in-person learning, and bussing information. Any further questions and concerns that you may have, we encourage you to contact your child/children's school's main office.

Once again, we share your frustrations and appreciate your ongoing support and patience. We share in your anxiousness for the days of complete normalcy again, but in the meantime, we still need to remain vigilant and understand that safety must come first. As always, our commitment is to preserve the health, safety and welfare of our pupils, teachers, administrators and support staff.

Be safe everyone,

Jennifer Montesano
Jennifer Montesano
Superintendent of Secaucus Schools