



January 24, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to provide a weekly update regarding matters pertaining to COVID-19 and the District response in our schools. Before I do, however, I'll thank all parents for contributions for a successful transition this past week..

New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) Reopening Guidance: The NJDOE has provided guidance to all school districts since mid-August and recently released its [7th version](#) for your consideration and review. Some major modifications are found in yellow. Further, I'll expand on a few items of note below:

Restrictions: There is an expansion of suggestions that rationalize the modifications we announced to our program regarding day duration and lunch in December while in the Orange zone.

Quarantine lengths: A modification was made for the quarantine length when we are in the Yellow or Green zone for the virus from 14 days to 10. Currently we are in the Orange zone (14 day quarantine). School Nurses coordinate this work with each school Principal.

School Closures: The guidance states that 2 or more cases are identified within 14 days that occur across multiple classrooms, are not linked to exposures outside the school setting, and a clear connection between cases cannot be easily identified but in-school transmission is suspected warrants a school closure. In this scenario, although not expressly stated, in the event that in school transmission is not suspected schools would have an increased likelihood of remaining open.

COVID-19 Activity Level Report: In lieu of the notification procedures implemented that announce each COVID-19 case to the community, each week the District will produce an activity level report. [HERE](#) is the report for January 23, 2021. The District manages all COVID-19 related information under the COVID-19 tab on its website inclusive of cases counts, quarantine counts, district communication and NJDOH guidance and associated reports.

I thank you for your partnership and will communicate further District status and related updates on the January 30-January 31 weekend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Brotschul". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" being more prominent.

Brian Brotschul, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools