

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District  
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April 1, 2021

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents Faculty, Staff and Community Members,

The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District is working diligently to continue to extend our partnership with the Hunterdon County Department of Health, organizing a third clinic date for our educators, staff, faculty, and substitute teachers. The next vaccination clinic is scheduled for April 13. Another 375 faculty, staff, and substitute teachers from Hunterdon County have been notified of an invitation to schedule a vaccination at the Hunterdon County clinic. In Flemington-Raritan Regional School District, 37 of our faculty/staff and substitute teachers received notification today of the availability of an appointment at the vaccination clinic on April 13. The partnership with the Hunterdon County Department of Health has resulted in close to 200 vaccinations for District staff and faculty.

This week was another great week for our students, staff, and faculty, despite the challenges that needed to be addressed daily. We continue to work through quarantine challenges, address issues with simulcasting, problem-solve the lack of substitute teachers, navigate traffic congestion due to the number of students that are car riders, and help students manage the use of cumbersome dividers that students have between them, to name a few challenges. However, the benefits of having our school doors open for students far outweigh the challenges. The faculty and staff in Flemington-Raritan are thrilled to see our students both in person and on Zoom.

Here's a look at our updated schedule:

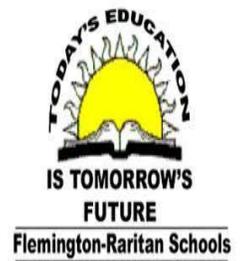
April 2-9	Spring Recess
April 12-16	In-person students attend school every day on an early dismissal schedule.
April 19-23	In-person students attend school every day on an early dismissal schedule.
April 26-30	In-person students attend school every day on an early dismissal schedule.
<i>~Parents who selected all-virtual instruction for their child will continue with all-remote learning.~</i>	

We continue to move forward with planning for the remainder of the school year and the 2021-2022 school year. Our plans are for a traditional school calendar for the 2021-2022 school year with full in-person learning for all students in a traditional schedule. At this time, a full-day schedule is being planned for September 2021.

Keeping our school doors open for students is dependent upon health data and informed experts in the health field. Each week, the Department of Health provides information on the COVID-19 transmission at the regional level published through the CALI report. [The COVID-19 report continues to show our Central West region in the "orange."](#) Unfortunately, our region saw an increase again in the percent positivity rate. The data for last week also shows an increase in the other two COVID-19 indicators, case rate and the percent CLI.

According to the Hunterdon County Health Department, when our region is in the High COVID activity level, the 14 day quarantine time frame is recommended. Any deviation of the 14-day quarantine recommendation is evaluated on a case-by-case basis and only considered if the 14 days are not feasible due to extenuating hardship. Until we see a different trend in the number of cases, a decrease in the COVID-19 activity level index reports, we will take the safest route to keep our doors open to students, staff, and faculty, and exclude those who are exposed. [The CDC and the NJDOH continue to endorse 14 days as the preferred quarantine period](#)—and thus the preferred school exclusion period. Even with the increase in access to vaccinations, we must remain vigilant. It is critical that we all continue to

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follow social distancing, masking, and other infection control protocols while vaccine administration is ongoing in the State.

### **COVID-19 Update**

The District received notice of a positive COVID-19 case of a J.P. Case Middle School student who was last in the building on March 31. Our District nurses follow all contact tracing guidelines from the Department of Health.

### **Required Travel Quarantine- Travel Plans Are Discouraged**

At this time, the NJ Department of Health guidance is that non-essential, out-of-state travel is discouraged, regardless of a person's vaccination status. Travelers must continue to follow quarantining recommendations after travel. Unless there is a change in this guidance, all students who travel to any U.S. state or territory beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) must quarantine. Speak with one of our school nurses for questions on the number of days your child must quarantine if your child travels. Also, please contact your child's school principal if your child has been required to quarantine due to exposure or travel out of New Jersey. Students that must quarantine due to exposure or travel will utilize simulcasting/live streaming support during their quarantine.

As per Board of Education Policy 5210, the Board of Education requires that pupils enrolled in the schools of this district attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State. Pupil participation in all daily scheduled classroom activities is essential in order to achieve continuity of instruction and learning experiences. To this end, attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session. Although the Board recognizes the benefits to students of time spent with families, the Board encourages families to take trips and/or to travel when school is not in session.

### **Substitutes Needed**

Now more than ever, our district needs substitute teachers as we work to open doors wider for students while continuing to provide all-remote instruction to families that choose a virtual learning model. If you are interested in substituting in the District, [please click here for more information](#).

My best to all our families for a wonderful spring holiday.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kari McGann".

Dr. Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools