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July 17, 2020

Dear Members of the Readington School Community,

Over the course of this past week the Restart Committee, comprised of Board members, parents, staff, and administration, met to discuss the guidance document from the New Jersey Department of Education. Our goal was to use this document to guide our thinking when considering options for reopening in September. Our district sought the input, questions, and concerns from the members of the committee. Further, we imagined the possibilities in how we can make this school year positive and productive for our students.

I want to be clear that our plan is not finalized; however, during the committee meeting the discussions revolved around opening our schools in a limited capacity. The Department of Education minimum standards require that we open schools for in-person instruction but also mandate that districts must allow for social distancing of six (6) feet within the classroom to the maximum extent possible. This led to the conclusion that, in order to provide the six-foot distance in classrooms, we will bring our students into school at a reduced capacity. This means that certain students would attend school in person on certain days and virtually on other days. The committee certainly believes that in-person school attendance is critically important to a child's education, but the committee also discussed an option that would allow students with medical needs or other health and safety factors to engage in fully virtual instruction.

While I understand you will have questions regarding the logistics of a reduced capacity opening and it can be frustrating knowing limited information, I can assure you all final details will be communicated clearly to our entire school community in a timely manner. I write all of this knowing that the current state of affairs can change at a moment's notice. Therefore, we are also planning for flexibility allowing us to shift from a reduced capacity opening to a full capacity opening or a completely virtual opening.

Finally, if you have not yet done so, please be sure to complete **our survey by the end of the day today, July 17**. This survey will assist in our future planning as we move toward a reopening in the fall.

We continue to navigate through uncharted waters and I am so appreciative of the flexibility, consideration, and thoughtfulness from our school community. It is our strength as a community that will guide us through this most unusual time in our history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Hart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jonathan Hart, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools