



www.readington.k12.nj.us

Jonathan Hart, Ph.D., *Superintendent*
Jason M. Bohm, CPA, *Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

jhart@readington.k12.nj.us
jbohm@readington.k12.nj.us

P.O. Box 807 • 52 Readington Road • Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889 • (908)-534-2195 • (908) 349-3042 fax

February 11, 2021

Dear Readington Families,

Today, our district learned that the COVID Activity Report has turned “yellow” for our region. This designation of yellow indicates a moderate level of COVID activity and brings promise that outbreak of the virus is not as severe as it once was. This communication is to inform families that **in-person instruction for all students who have selected to be in-person will begin for grades K-5 on February 22, 2021. We will monitor the COVID activity level but anticipate opening up expanded in-person learning for the middle school (grades 6-8) on March 1, 2021.** Over the course of the next week our staff will continue placing desks back into classrooms, adjust bus pick-up and drop-off times, and make other preparations for the expansion of in-person learning.

As we move toward this expansion of in-person learning, please be reminded of the following:

- The expansion of in-person learning means that the 6-foot distance may **not** be maintained in all classrooms. Barriers will be placed on student desks.
- Students that will be returning for in-person learning will be attending **four days per week** (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday). Wednesdays will remain fully virtual until further notice. However, there exist weeks when a holiday may require Wednesday to be in-person. Specifically, the week of March 22, the week of March 29, and the week of May 31. Please review the school calendar.
- It is now more critical than ever to **fill out your child’s COVID assurance form each morning.**
- Ensure that you **keep your child home if s/he is showing signs and symptoms of illness.** Report any positive COVID cases to your child’s school nurse.
- Check *Genesis* on February 19 to review your child’s bus pick-up or drop-off time if s/he is taking school transportation. There may be some changes. Our school buses will be transporting more students, please ensure your child sits in his/her assigned seat.
- If you are driving your child to school, please be patient as we update our traffic control patterns with local law enforcement.
- Send your child to school with a mask. Please provide back-ups if possible.

The decision to move forward with opening schools to more students is not one that has been taken lightly. The district’s number one job is to keep our staff and students safe and healthy. For many weeks, we have been closely monitoring CDC, state data and regional data. This, along with the region’s switch from orange to yellow, has provided reassurance to move into the next phase of reopening. Furthermore, we have been gathering research from other districts who have successfully returned to more in-person instruction. We, too, have learned a great deal about managing the pandemic within schools since the fall. This provides confidence in our health and safety protocols.

Future decisions with regard to reopening plans will continue to be driven by data and research and will be implemented incrementally and thoughtfully to ensure the utmost protection and safety of our students and staff members. As we prepare for more students to enter our buildings, our safety protocols will continue to be the leadership team's primary focus.

Should you have any further questions, please contact your building principal or my office. We look forward to students returning more fully in the next few weeks.

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