



TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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February 4, 2021

Dear Township of Franklin Public Schools Community,

It's been a while since we have experienced a snowstorm like this one. It is our hope that you were able to safely enjoy time with your family in the snow. A huge THANK YOU goes out to our custodial, maintenance and buildings/grounds department for their efforts in preparing the facilities for the safe return of our staff and students. Listed below are some very important district updates to keep you informed.

HYBRID SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS (PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND)

Week of February 8th

Monday, February 8th Cohorts A & C (in-person)/Cohort B (virtual)
Tuesday, February 9th Cohorts B & C (in-person)/Cohort A (virtual)
Wednesday, February 10th **Cohorts B & C (in-person)/Cohort A (virtual)**
Thursday, February 11th Cohorts A & C (in-person)/Cohort B (virtual)
Friday, February 12th **DISTRICT CLOSED-PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND**

Week of February 15th

Monday, February 15th **DISTRICT CLOSED-PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND**
Tuesday, February 16th Cohorts B & C (in-person)/Cohort A (virtual)
Wednesday, February 17th **Cohorts A & C (in-person)/Cohort A (virtual)**
Thursday, February 18th Cohorts A & C (in-person)/Cohort B (virtual)
Friday, February 19th Cohorts B & C (in-person)/Cohort B (virtual)

***Kindergarten Hybrid students will attend all four days both weeks.**

LIVE STREAMING OF LESSONS/INSTRUCTIONAL SCHEDULE UPDATE-IMPORTANT UPDATE

In efforts to increase instructional time, improve curriculum pacing, increase student learning, and position the district for a smooth transition to increased student in-person capacity, the district began requiring the teaching staff to provide "live streaming" synchronous lessons five days per week. This allows for the students that are not in-person at school to log in and participate in the daily lessons. This instructional shift began for the Main Road and Caroline L. Reutter Schools on February 3rd and will begin at the Mary F. Janvier School by March 1st. By now, parents of children at both the Main Road and Caroline L. Reutter Schools should have received a daily instructional schedule. **It is very important for**

the students to attend the “live” lessons; however, the lessons will be recorded and posted on Google Classrooms for the students that miss the “live” lesson time. As always, I encourage parents to reach out to your child’s teachers with any questions.

“LIVE STREAMING”/GOOGLE MEETS HOME ENVIRONMENT HELPFUL TIPS

The Google Meet Classroom environment is an extension of your child’s classroom at school. It should be appropriate and free of distractions. Poor lighting, loud background noises, an unstable webcam, and a too-casual of an atmosphere may prevent students from listening and engaging in a lesson.

Please make sure that your child’s camera is at eye level and that the background behind them is as clear and appropriate as possible. **A friendly reminder that we are requiring students to use headphones while on Google Meet sessions. This will assist our efforts in maintaining the confidentiality of all students participating in the Google Meetings.** By establishing behavioral do and don’t guidelines, as well as clear norms for the Google Meets, we can provide your child with the most stable learning environment possible.

PARENT/GUARDIAN “LIVE STREAMING”/GOOGLE MEET BEHAVIORS

To maintain a positive, productive learning environment, while assuring confidentiality for students and teachers during “live streaming”, all parents/guardians are asked to observe the following guidelines during live Google Meeting sessions:

- Google Meetings are designed for students to engage in remote learning. To prevent disruptions to the learning environment, parents/guardians should not actively participate in sessions. Parents/Guardians may assist with technology, however, academic support during the Google Meet session should be provided by the teacher.
- Parents/Guardians should not video record, audio record, photograph, live stream, or transmit any part of a Google Meeting. Your child’s teacher is recording the session and will make it available for future viewing.
- Establishing a quiet area that avoids loud background noises is important. **It is important to know, that even when your child is wearing headphones, once the Chromebook microphone is unmuted, background noises will be heard.**
- The district is making every effort not to allow any confidential or personally identifiable information of students in a Google Meeting; however, there are times, through lesson conversations, that this is unavoidable. Parents should not collect, discuss, or share any information pertaining to another student in your child’s class.
- Parents/guardians should not engage with students during Google Meetings.
- If a parent/guardian has a question, please contact your child’s teacher.

COVID-19 DISTRICT UPDATE

To date, the Township of Franklin Public School District has experienced a total of **52 positive COVID-19** cases since September 1, 2020. In efforts to keep the community up to date and informed, we have added a [COVID case tracker](#) link to the main page of the district website. The COVID tracker provides up to date totals of positive COVID cases within the schools, along with the number of current active cases. It is important to remember that just because a case may be considered “active”, doesn’t automatically mean there was potential exposure at school.

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

The New Jersey Department of Health has begun administering COVID-19 vaccinations. For more information, including registering for the vaccination, please visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>.

HOW TO GET YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE

- 1 ENROLL ONLINE**
Visit the New Jersey Vaccination Scheduling System (NJVSS) at <http://covidvaccine.nj.gov>
- 2 CREATE YOUR PROFILE**
After completing your health assessment, you will be placed in queue based on the tier you qualify for.
- 3 SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT**
Once an appointment becomes available, you will be sent an email to schedule your appointment. You will receive a confirmation email after scheduling.
- 4 GET YOUR VACCINE**
After scheduling your appointment, you will be sent a QR code to bring with to your appointment. Print it or pull it up on your smart phone when you enter the Gloucester County Mega Site.

AFTER YOUR 1ST DOSE
After receiving the vaccine, you will get an email with a fact sheet about the vaccine. Don't forget to monitor your symptoms and call your health care provider if you have concerns.

DON'T FORGET YOUR 2ND DOSE
Once you receive your first dose, within 1 to 2 weeks you will receive an email with a link to schedule your second dose.

If residents experience an error or need support with the New Jersey Vaccine Scheduling System, you can complete an online form at: <https://covid19.nj.gov/forms/vaccine/vss-feedback>

In addition, you can call 855-568-0545 for automated phone support. Live operators will be available in the coming days.

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DISTRICT GOOGLE CALENDAR

For your reference, the district Google Calendar has the daily Hybrid Cohort schedule listed. The district Google Calendar can be found on our main webpage at <http://www.franklintwpschools.org/calendar>

Our school district is here to support our students and the school community. Our faculty and staff continue to work hard to make the best of this difficult situation. Please let us know how we can be of any assistance.

Yours in education,

Mr. Troy Walton
Superintendent of Schools