



# HADDONFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

... news from the Board of Education

## FROM the SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings, Haddonfield Families,

I am reaching out to all Haddonfield parents and guardians to share information about our plans for returning to school on September 8th. I am sure you all understand that it has been an enormous challenge to make plans in an environment of news – world, state and local news – that seems to change every day, but we are committed to making the best decisions we can for our students, staff and families.



On Wednesday, August 12th, Governor Murphy announced that New Jersey schools can reopen with a fully remote model if a district can demonstrate they cannot have sufficient safety measures in place by September, a significant change from his previous directive that schools should open with some degree of in-person learning.

There does not exist a zero-risk plan, however we remain confident that our planning and preparations appropriately mitigate the risks and provide for as safe a learning environment as possible for our staff and students. We are diligently monitoring messages from the Governor, as well as the Camden County Department of Health, and maintaining frequent dialogue and collaboration with teacher leaders. At this time, **Haddonfield continues to plan to open with the hybrid model for most\* students.**

During the week of August 3rd, all Haddonfield PARENTS AND GUARDIANS submitted their choice(s) for return options for their child(ren). The breakdown was as follows:

School	All Virtual	Hybrid Model
HMHS	11%	89%
HMS	12%	88%
ES	16%	84%
Total	13%	87%

### WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING TO PREPARE?

As you read in the district's document "[On the Road Back](#)," Haddonfield School District has planned a hybrid learning model that will bring in half of our students at a time, allowing for social distancing in school to the greatest extent possible and intensive disinfecting between cohorts. Based on projections, we anticipate social distancing in classrooms to average between 4 to 5 feet (in addition to the requirement that all staff and students wear masks). Portable barriers will also be available in classrooms.

Here is a link to the [comprehensive plan](#) sent to the county for approval.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Students will remain in classrooms with teachers moving between rooms to the greatest possible extent.
- We are working diligently with our teachers to identify and adhere to requests for health accommodations as well as adherence to the Family First Coronavirus Act. This is indeed a challenge that we are working tirelessly to address as we attempt to support our excellent staff without compromising our ability to deliver high quality instruction.
- We have invested in portable partitions for desks in classrooms where social distancing is not possible and for office personnel who deal with people face to face.
- All staff and students will wear masks in school. Staff will receive district-provided masks on August 31st; anti-fog face shields are also available to staff for additional protection. Special masks that include a clear window have been purchased for students and staff, if needed.
- Hallways will be one way where possible.
- Social distancing signage will exist inside our buildings and outside at entrance points.
- Temperature checks will occur daily. Students and staff with a temperature above 100 will be rescreened. If temperature remains above 100, they will receive a more formal screening by the school nurse.
- Hand washing will occur frequently, and hand-sanitizing stations will exist in each classroom and throughout the buildings.
- Large spaces indoors and out will be used for "mask breaks," snack, recess or PE.
- Visitors will be limited.
- Cleaning protocols have been enhanced. High touch points will be disinfected 2-3 times per day while students are in the building. Additional disinfecting will continue while staff are in the building.
- We have surpassed the state minimum of 10% fresh air circulation to a 20% minimum of fresh air at all times. Contingent upon the weather, the fresh air intake can be as high as 100%.
- We have purchased supplies of MERV 13 high quality filters that will be changed monthly for all air-circulation systems. This is a significant upgrade to our HVAC system.
- Odorox hydroxyl generators have been purchased for all district nurses' offices, devices that generate hydroxyls and other molecules that naturally kill bacteria, viruses, and mold.
- September professional development will include training on safety protocols for all staff.
- The district will continue to address issues of social and emotional health using the evidence-based [RULER](#) framework. Training for all of our staff will continue through the fall, with student and parent rollout anticipated for the late fall.
- The district has established a partnership with Temple University's Center for Adolescent Anxiety Disorders Clinic (CAADC). CAADC will provide enhanced professional development for our school counselors. Also, we will have up to two clinical interns in the district to support students and provide mental health consultations for staff.
- The district has also established an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that provides no-cost, 1:1 counseling support for all HSD staff and members of their households, among other features and benefits.

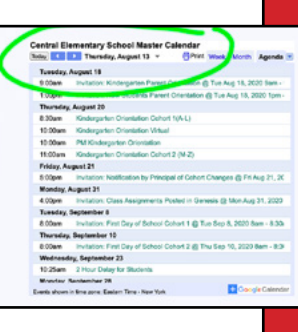
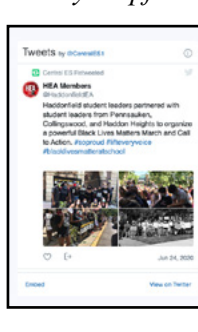
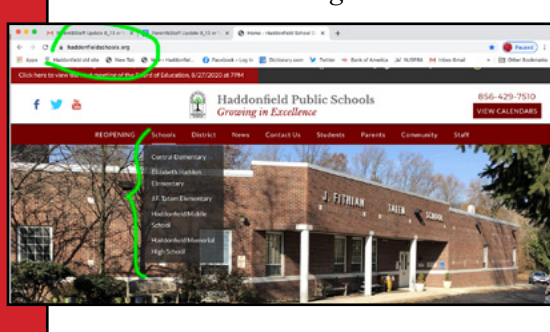
#### CURRICULAR

- Administrators and teachers have engaged in extensive planning for both the hybrid and the virtual models. We have planned carefully for potential transitions from hybrid to full virtual, and back again.
- Additional Chromebooks have been ordered to make sure that every student is prepared for any virtual learning.
- Based on feedback about the virtual learning practices in the spring, we made significant changes to the virtual learning environment your children will experience, whether they attend the hybrid or virtual model. Here are highlights:
  - o Teachers will live-stream lessons daily.
    - § At 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the elementary level
      - Length of lesson dependent upon the grade level
        - ▼ 10 - 15 minutes for kindergartener
        - ▼ 20-30 minutes for fifth grade
      - § More 1:1 and small group live virtual instruction
      - § 50% to 100% of each class will be live streamed
        - Dependent upon what is best pedagogically
    - o Consistent schedule
    - o Mandatory attendance during class time
    - o Consistent pacing across grades and departments

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO GET READY?

Knowing that nearly 87% of Haddonfield students will be in school for part of each week, we recommend that you:

- Encourage your student(s) to practice wearing a face mask for gradually increasing periods of time each day.
  - o Our health staff shares [these specifications](#) as representing the best kind of mask to buy, and remind us all that the "fit" is an extremely important feature.
  - o Look for messages from the PTA about masks for sale with the Haddonfield School District logo.
- Take a look at the states on the [New Jersey travel advisory list](#). If any member of your household will return to Haddonfield from any of these states, please allow time for a 14-day quarantine at home before sending your student(s) to our school buildings.
- Check your email often. Your building principals are regularly sending important information to you.
- Make sure you know in which cohort your student has been placed.
- Check your principal's list of supplies needed for September.
- The first day for students is September 8, 2020. Specific cohort schedules will be posted detailing weekly adjustments due to days off.
- [Check the school calendars](#) which have changed. Board approval will occur on August 27th.
- PLEASE NOTE: Earlier in the spring, the Zone PTA announced that there will be no community calendar this year. Familiarize yourself with your school's web page and locate the Google calendar. It will be very helpful!



- Talk to your family about what school will look like this fall; encourage them to share their feelings and ask questions.

#### We will keep in touch!

If we have learned one thing since March 16th, it is that we are operating in an environment of regular change, and we understand that this can cause stress and confusion. We will communicate often and with complete transparency as we move forward to what will certainly be a very unusual school year. We remain committed to providing the highest quality education and safest environment for our children and staff.

Sincerely,

Chuck Klaus

Superintendent of Schools

#### Haddonfield continues to plan to open with the hybrid model for most\* students.

To best meet their needs, certain at-risk students will be in school following a schedule that is different from the two-cohort (Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday) schedule. Principals have already communicated with the families of these students.

Additionally, certain families have requested a 100% virtual learning environment, and we will provide that for them.

### Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:

Board Meeting August 27 7:00 p.m.

[All 2020 Board Meeting dates on our website.](#)

[Log in to watch \(and call in during designated time\) Board meetings](#)

#### Board Presentations:

[Posted on our website](#)

#### Board Meeting Bulletins:

[Posted on our website](#)

The Haddonfield School District News is written/edited by Communications Specialist Polly Mitchell and distributed to staff, families, and some community members.

Polly Mitchell • Board of Education • One Lincoln Avenue • Haddonfield, N.J. 08033  
856-429-7510 X6215 [pmitchell@haddonfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:pmitchell@haddonfield.k12.nj.us)