



ANDOVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

707 Limecrest Road

Newton, NJ 07860

Telephone: 973-315-5254 FAX: 973-579-3972

January 21, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff:

Good evening, this letter is to inform our school community that we **will return to our in-person hybrid instructional program on Monday, January 25, 2021**. We will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 in Sussex County and Andover, as the health, safety and well-being of our staff, students, and school community will remain our top priority. Although there are still a significant number of reported positive cases (109 additional cases in Andover in January), we are pleased to report the Sussex County COVID-19 health data over this past week, involving positivity rate (81.2 to 73.5) and infectious rate (1.18 to 1.05), has plateaued and slightly decreased for the first time in weeks. We also understand and are aware of the importance of our students being back in school in the classroom with their teachers for social, emotional and academic reasons.

We encourage our staff, parents and students to continue to be vigilant and follow the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) promoted safeguards regarding COVID-19, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

Parents and Guardians are asked to use the linked self-screening form [Daily Screening Tool](#) to do a daily health check of your child each morning before sending to school. If your child is not feeling well, please keep him/her home and report any illness type symptoms to your building nurse.

Please be advised that our school community must be prepared, at any time, to pivot from our hybrid instructional model to 100% remote learning. This could occur due to information from our local health department, Governor Murphy's office, excessive student absences, or the inability to staff our in-person hybrid instructional program.

As a reminder, we have transitioned to a fully synchronous program. Students in grades preschool through grade 2 and pre-identified groups will attend in-person learning Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. For all other students, on Mondays and Tuesdays, the red cohort students will report to school for in-person learning while the white cohort students join the instruction via teacher provided Zoom links. On Thursdays and Fridays, the white cohort students will report to school for in-person learning while the red cohort students join the instruction via teacher provided Zoom links. All students, red and white cohorts, will continue learning remotely on Wednesdays via a combination of live, teacher led instruction and asynchronous learning activities. All 100% virtual students will join their classes for synchronous learning Monday through Friday following the zoom links that are provided by the teacher. Any other additional school specific instructional program information will continue to be communicated by our teachers and school building Principals.

One other reminder to all parents/guardians who have selected for their children to be on our 100% remote learning instructional programming. Please be advised that the **due date to inform the school administration to return to our in-person hybrid instructional program for the third trimester is February 11, 2021**. Requests must be submitted via [this form](#). Please note, you only need to complete the form if your child is currently on the 100% remote learning option and you want to switch to the hybrid model for the third trimester.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to our schools and classrooms. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation during these unprecedented times in our schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Tobin".

Dennis Tobin
Interim Superintendent of Schools