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Dr. Frank Ranelli
Superintendent of Schools

September 2, 2020

Dear Piscataway Families:

As we make final plans for the 2020-2021 school year that begins remotely on Tuesday, September 8, we want to ensure our students and families are aware of all protocols and have the tools they need to confidently navigate remote learning.

The Remote Classroom

This week, all students and families will receive information from their schools/teachers regarding how to log in to their Zoom Classrooms – either through Schoology for grades K-12, or through Google Classrooms for grades PreK-3. In addition, we prepared [Tips for Student Success](#), which offers advice for setting up the best remote learning space within the home, and a [Q&A](#) to provide an overview of how remote learning will work.

School Attendance

Students are expected to attend remote classrooms every day and to be on time for each class. Teachers will take official attendance and absences will be recorded. The District will continue to follow the same guidelines for excused/unexcused absences that are found in our Student Handbooks. Exceptions may be made for Wi-Fi or other technical difficulties. Please contact your child's school should any connectivity issues occur.

Teacher Absences

In the event of a teacher absence, assignments for the day will be placed in the teacher's Schoology or Google Classroom e-folder for student access.

District-Issued Devices

While all students in Grades PreK-12 will receive District-issued devices to use during this school year, not all grades will have these devices by Tuesday. Any student who does not have access to another device at home, and for whom this is a hardship, should contact their building principal as soon as possible. We will provide a loaner device to use until the ordered devices arrive in District, later this month.

Meal Delivery

The District will resume its "Grab and Go" meal distribution at centralized locations throughout the Township. Grab and go breakfast and lunch packages will be available for pickup on Mondays and Thursdays between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the following locations:

- Administration Building, 1515 Stelton Road
- Arbor School, 1717 Lester Place
- Children's Corner by the River, 2300 Cooper Street
- Eisenhower School, 360 Stelton Road
- M.L. King School, 5205 Ludlow Street
- T. Schor School, 243 North Randolphville Road

Meals are available for all Piscataway students and can be picked up at any one of the six locations. Please bring your child's ID card to the pickup location to collect meal(s). **Please note: Since the first day of school is a Tuesday, meal distribution will take place on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, and Thursday, September 10, 2020. The regular Monday/Thursday distribution schedule will begin on Monday, September 14, 2020.**

Counseling

With school back in session, please know that your school counselors are there for our students and families. While we may be operating remotely, our counselors and mental health professionals are here to support our students' academic and social emotional needs. School counselors are back and ready to assist in any way that they can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them via Email or phone. The Haven, Piscataway's school based mental health program, is also available to assist students and families. The Haven can be reached at 732-981-0700, ext. 2250 or via email at Haven@pway.org. As always, if you are experiencing a true emergency call 911 or if you need immediate mental health assistance call UBHC at (800) 969-5300.

We look forward to this school year with high hopes for our students and staff. We know there may be some bumps in the road, but we will continue to put our students first every day, and give them the education they deserve. Please remember my door is always open to address any concerns or problems, and I'm always grateful to hear stories of success. Please watch for further communications from your child's school.

Here's to a successful 2020-2021 school year.

Very Sincerely,



Dr. Frank Ranelli