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www.piscatawayschools.org

July 29, 2021

Dear Piscataway Families:

Last week, District leadership gathered for three days of discussion and planning for the 2021-2022 school year. We are eager to welcome back all students full-time, five-days-a-week. Our planning is guided by that goal, and we will announce all steps we are taking to ensure a safe return for all by mid-August. Meanwhile, we do have important news regarding District Communication:

School Messenger Alert System:

As we prepare for the 2021-2022 school year, we are switching to the School Messenger Alert System to serve our families more effectively. This will improve our communication as both guardians will be able to receive messages, emails will be more readable, an app is available, and text messaging will be available soon.

Please review the flyer inserted below—it includes additional information about setting up your School Messenger account so you receive information exactly how you want to receive it: to either your cell phone, home phone, work phone, personal email, work email or any combination of these.

The first step is to make sure all of your guardian contact information listed in <u>Genesis</u> is correct. All messages can only be sent to phone numbers and email addresses listed in **Genesis.** We will send complete instructions for how to set up your School Messenger account in August.

Summer Meal Distribution

Please remember, our summer meal distribution continues on Wednesdays from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM through the end of August at Arbor, Schor, Conackamack, and the Administration Building. You can pick up meals every week, or whenever you need them.

I hope you are enjoying a relaxing summer and I look forward to greeting our students in September.

Very sincerely,

Dr. Frank Ranelli Superintendent of Schools

INPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

PISCATAWAY SCHOOLS IS SWITCHING TO THE SCHOOL MESSENGER ALERT SYSTEM TO SERVE OUR FAMILIES MORE EFFECTIVELY

Our New Alert System Will Improve Communications for the 2021-2022 School Year!

- Emails will be more readable in regular email format.
- Phone messages/emails can be received by both custodial guardians. This will be helpful to families whose children split time between households.
- Both guardians with emails listed in our Genesis database can set up a School Messenger account.
- Both guardians can opt to receive information at one or more phone numbers—or they can opt out of phone messages.
- School Messenger also has an App, and district messages will be available in one place for easy retrieval and referencing.
- Text messaging will be available as an opt-in soon.

\Rightarrow *What to do now:*

School Messenger uses phone numbers and emails found in your Genesis account. <u>Check Genesis now</u>. Make sure all guardian email addresses and phone numbers are up to date. If changes are needed, contact your school's main office as soon as possible.

$\Rightarrow \underline{What to do in August:}$

In August, we will send complete instructions to set up your School Messenger account.

PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS