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Dr. Frank Ranelli
Superintendent of Schools

September 17, 2021

Dear Piscataway Families:

As we finish up our second week of fulltime in-person instruction, I'm happy to report that our students have adjusted well to being back at school. They are fully cooperating with mask-wearing and social distancing whenever possible. We continue to make adjustments to speed up lunch service and streamline other areas to reduce the number of students in one place to as few as possible.

Unfortunately, dealing with COVID-19 is our new reality. We will continue to keep you fully informed as to all new cases and quarantines in our buildings and schools, but in order to strike a better balance between keeping you informed and sending too many emails, we will now send weekly updates every Friday of all new cases reported during the immediate past week. **Daily updates will continue to be posted by building on the District's website homepage dashboard, from Monday – Friday.**

Our first weekly COVID update continues below:

This letter is to inform you that from Friday, September 10, 2021, through Thursday, September 16, 2021, the Piscataway School District had a total of 13 confirmed new cases of COVID-19 reported. Contact tracing was initiated and all individuals who had close contact have been notified and are following the appropriate protocols. These cases were noted on the website Dashboard Update on the day they were reported. *Please note, the numbers in this letter reflect only cases reported in the previous week, while the Dashboard numbers show a broader picture of current positive cases, cleared cases to date, and number of current quarantines.*

The cases reported during the past week include the following:

Building	Staff	Student
Children's Corner River		1
Eisenhower		3
Grandview		3
Knollwood	1	
Randolphville	1	
Piscataway High School		3
Custodial/Maintenance	1	
Total	3	10

The District continues to follow CDC, state, and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas has been completed and we are taking additional precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs by cleaning frequently touched surfaces throughout the school day.

We are monitoring the status of the situation closely. We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19 and encourage families and staff to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap 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.

As always, we appreciate your support and cooperation. Should you have any questions about how we have prepared for situations such as this, please feel free to contact your building principal or the Superintendent's Office. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

RESOURCES

NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml

a. Get the Facts about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

b. Symptoms of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

c. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>;
<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>

d. How to Protect Yourself: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

e. What to Do if You Are Sick: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

Very sincerely,



Dr. Frank Ranelli