

Hainesport Township School District

Joseph R. Corn
Superintendent of Schools

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March 31, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Friday, March 19, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) updated its public school guidelines to include a reduction in the distance specified for social distancing, from 6 feet down to 3. On Wednesday, March 24, the NJ Department of Health adopted these changes and all NJ public schools were immediately informed. The updated guidance also stressed, at this time, that any efforts in returning students for additional in-person days should be prioritized for instruction only, not extracurriculars, in order to protect in-person learning.

In direct consultation with the health experts of the Burlington County Health Department (BCHD), the district will begin the process of moving towards returning students to school 5 days a week utilizing the modified social distancing requirements of 3 feet, to the greatest extent possible. With the relaxation of the social distancing element of Governor Murphy's Executive Order, the district will eliminate student cohorts and return those students who opt to attend in-person **5 FULL days of instruction per week beginning Monday, April 26**. A full-time remote option will still be offered for those students who wish NOT to attend in-person.

If your child already attends school in-person through the hybrid model, and you would like your child to continue to attend in-person 5 days a week, you DO NOT need to complete any additional forms. For those who plan to transition their child from in-person to full remote instruction, please contact the Main Office for assistance.

Please note, FACE COVERINGS WILL STILL BE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES, AS WELL AS ON THE BUS.

The April 26 date allows over three additional weeks for those staff who still wish to receive vaccinations an opportunity to do so, AND it also allows for a full two week buffer after the return from spring break. Additionally, the district will need a couple of weeks for housekeeping purposes in order to remove all unnecessary furniture within classrooms to allow for maximum space for students to return. After spring break, the district will continue with its cohorted hybrid model, concluding on Friday, April 23. Please see the [Revised MP4 Schedule](#).

Once again, the district has remained vigilant since the onset of COVID-19 in following all of the guidelines and strong advice made by the trained, experienced health and safety experts, never wavering in this effort, in order to do all that can be done to keep students and faculty safe while performing our duties as essential employees of the community. I am very proud of how the district has handled this global pandemic, experiencing minimal disruption of COVID outbreaks within the school building. Where other districts simply did as they wished and had to navigate the consequences, HTSD followed every recommendation made by the BCHD verbatim throughout.

The district will continue to have weekly dialogue with the county health experts, and if new data warrants a return to either our cohorted, hybrid model, or full remote status, the district will follow accordingly as it always has.

Thank you for all of your continued patience and understanding through these very trying times.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Corn

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HOME OF THE HAWKS

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