



Egg Harbor Township Schools

www.eht.k12.nj.us

Administration Offices

13 Swift Drive

Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

November 24, 2020

To Our Egg Harbor Township School Community:

As a District we want to thank everyone for their cooperation and support during this unprecedented 2020-2021 school year. The school year continues to present new challenges as we navigate hybrid instruction.

The current rise in positive cases of COVID-19 in Atlantic County and our School District has placed a severe strain on our ability to keep our in-person/hybrid offering open at this time. We previously reported that our preventative measures had been successful in reducing exposure while at school. We are extremely proud of our facilities department, administrators, teachers, staff, and students for working together in keeping our schools clean and adhering to our health and safety guidelines. We are grateful for these collaborative efforts to keep the schools clean and safe. The majority of our reported positive COVID-19 cases appear to have been contracted outside of school. However, as this pandemic continues to spread, we have needed to quarantine students and staff alike. This has created a situation where we lack coverage for classes because many staff are in quarantine or on leave and in some cases classes have had to go completely remote.

The health, safety, and welfare of our staff and students is of the utmost importance to us. As you will recall, our Restart Plan was created to be fluid in order to allow us to adapt as circumstances developed during this unprecedented time. Therefore, the District is making the difficult decision to return to all-virtual instruction for all students beginning November 30th and we will remain all-virtual until January 19, 2021. We have collaborated with the Atlantic County Superintendent, Atlantic County Division of Public Health, our Board of Education, and Administration in making this decision.

We did not make this decision lightly as we know that this type of closure places tremendous hardships on families. On Monday, November 30, 2020, our schools will be open for students to retrieve any belongings or needed resources from their respective school building. ASPIRE will adhere to their normal virtual schedule. Breakfast/lunch pick up and distribution will continue on Monday of each week. Winter athletics have been postponed by the NJSIAA for the entire state until mid-January.

The pivot to all-virtual learning will require your child to follow the same daily schedule and Google Classroom tool that they are accustomed to when learning from home. More information will be forthcoming regarding the service of our special needs population from the Director of Special Education.

The health, safety, and welfare of our staff and students is of the utmost importance to us. While this is a time like no other, this is the time to work together, care for yourself, be kind to others, and be #EHTStrong. Please continue to monitor our district website for relevant information.

Additionally, I wish you a safe, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving. This is a time to be grateful for everyone's effort in embracing, engaging, and educating the students of our Egg Harbor Township Schools.

We will continuously monitor the status of COVID-19 to ensure a safe and healthy re-opening of our schools. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly A. Gruccio EdD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small "EdD" at the end.

Kimberly A. Gruccio, EdD
Superintendent