

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This blast, and all subsequent blasts through the end of August, will be issued jointly by myself as outgoing Superintendent and Dr. Howe as incoming Superintendent (Sep 1st). By this means our parents can be assured of a seamless continuity during this transition as we ready ourselves for the 2021-2022 school year.

Flyers

Freehold Borough is holding a free COVID vaccine event open to anyone age 12 and up tomorrow August 21 from Noon until 3 pm at the Freehold Borough Firehouse 49 West Main St. More info in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

News

Today the New Jersey Department of Education updated 'The Road Forward', previously released guidance on the 2021-2022 School Year ([link to the document](#)). Changes that were updated today are highlighted in yellow. Among the notable updates:

- In accordance with Governor's Executive Order 251 which was previously released this month all staff, students, and visitors wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status, in the indoor premises of school buildings. This requirement applies to all public, private, and parochial preschool programs and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools.
- Outdoors: In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. The CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised
- The definition of close contact was updated to exclude students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

The District plans on installing clear plastic dividers in the middle of lunch tables to separate students sitting across from each other. There will be assigned seating in the lunch room to assist with contact tracing in the event that becomes necessary. Hand sanitizer stations will remain available in all classrooms.

This latest guidance from the DOE still requires full day in person instruction. The first day of school is Thursday, September 9.

Thank you,

Rocco Tomazic & Joe Howe

Superintendent