

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Flyers:

Wednesday, September 30, 2020 is the deadline for completing the 2020 Census. Completing the census can be done online at 2020Census.gov or by phone in 14 different languages.

COVID-19 Child Care Tuition Assistance is now open to eligible families (incomes up to \$75,000) needing child care assistance due to a school's remote learning schedule. Applicants will need proof of income and a notice from the school (this is posted on our district website). Tuition assistance will be available through December 30, 2020 for eligible residents with school-age children, 5 to 13 years old. Applications can be made at: www.ChildCareNJ.gov

The Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide will be providing a virtual presentation on Raising Resilient Teens in Challenging Times Panel Presentation on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30. Pre-registration is required, www.sptsusa.org/RRT. Parents/trusted adults welcome. Flyer [here](#) .

Contacts:

Social/Emotional Hotline: 732-810-3146.

District technology issues: techstaff@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us

Restart and Reentry for 2020-2021:

We still have student belongings to pick up. FLC has about 25 bags left, PAE about 50, and FIS about 200. Each school will be reaching out to stragglers.

Our new iPads for use by Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students have arrived in the district and distribution was started this past Monday. Just a few left for pick up. All of our students should now have a device and Internet connectivity.

Our new thermal imagers have arrived in the district. These devices will allow us to efficiently screen for those staff and students with elevated body temperature (e.g. fever) as they come into school. If the system alerts, the individual will be diverted to the Nurse where a temperature will be taken by a more precise thermometer.

Our 800 plastic desk barriers have been shipped and should arrive in the district by the end of next week. Once they arrive we will set them up in the classrooms awaiting the transition to in-person hybrid learning.

We have just one remaining health & safety concern to resolve before we can transition to in-school hybrid learning. This relates to HVAC filtration. As I have indicated, our HVAC systems are not designed to handle MERV-13 filters (NJDOE requirement) as our HVAC systems would be susceptible to mechanical and electrical failure. The NJDOE/CDC does recommend alternatives outlined by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers if MERV-13 filters cannot be used. Our target device to resolve the filtration issue is to install GPS-iMOD Modular Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization Air Purification Systems in our HVAC systems.

We have many HVAC systems and units in the district so this is no small undertaking. But we need to do this to reopen the schools and we need to do this to keep us all safe. We were

pleased to receive \$206,066 additional funds this week for reopening purposes under the federal CARES Act. This money will be dedicated to this project. The rest of the funds needed will come from our district's capital reserve.

The GPS-iMOD Modular Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization Air Purification System has a number of benefits. It addresses particle reduction and smoke control. It neutralizes odors. It kills pathogens such as bacteria, viruses, and mold, while also controlling allergens. The ionization process attracts smaller particles, thus creating bigger particles which are more likely to be caught in the filter. These systems will serve us well long after the COVID issue is resolved.

We have an important coordination meeting with the potential contractor next week. As soon as we finish all the coordination and arrangements, we will advise a reasonable schedule for completion. We will give priority to finishing FLC before PAC if that choice has to be made. More on this soon.

We will give parents at least three-weeks notice, possibly more, of any change in operations.

Next Two Weeks:

Mon, Sep 28: District closed (Yom Kippur)

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Wed, Sep 30: Food distribution rear of PAC, 8am-12pm

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Fri, Oct 2:: Food distribution rear of PAC, 8am-12pm

Mon, Oct 5: Food distribution rear of PAC, 8am-12pm

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Wed, Oct 7: Food distribution rear of PAC, 8am-12pm

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Thu, Oct 8: End Interim Reporting Period 1

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Fri, Oct 9: Food distribution rear of PAC, 8am-12pm

Thank you.

Rocco Tomazic
Superintendent

