



TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Township of Franklin Public Schools Community,

All of us are finding it very difficult to comprehend that schools in New Jersey have been closed for three months and that summer recess is now upon us. We are also struggling with all of the unknowns that accompany our thoughts for the return to school in the fall. Please be assured, that we will continue to communicate school reopening information as soon as it becomes available. Finally, we cannot thank you enough for your cooperation, support and patience in dealing with this difficult situation. I am proud to say that our school community has stepped up and adjusted to this new reality and has demonstrated the true meaning of working together. It is our hope that everyone has a safe and relaxing summer recess.

VIRTUAL 6TH GRADE “MOVING UP” CEREMONY

Mr. Peters, and the staff at the Caroline L. Reutter School, are putting the finishing touches on the virtual 6th grade moving up ceremony video. Mr. Peters will be communicating the detailed viewing information as well as the link to the video on **Tuesday, June 16, 2020**. Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

PARENT DISTANCE LEARNING SURVEY

A friendly reminder that the district is currently conducting a parent survey regarding distance learning. Thank you to all of the parents that have taken the time to complete the survey. If you have not had the opportunity, please use the link below to access the survey. The information gained will allow us to assess the distance learning experience, as well as plan for the children’s safe return to school.

<https://forms.gle/62JHdaLqpQS76iy56>

DECISIONS ON SCHOOLS REOPENING FOR THE FALL

As stated in the opening paragraph of this update, we will communicate district reopening information as soon as it becomes available. However, it is important to remember that the decisions on when, how, and in what capacity school districts can reopen rests with the Governor’s office. In preparation, our district has assembled a Reopening of Schools Committee that will be prepared to meet once guidelines are released. In addition, we are currently gathering relevant data that will be useful once deeper planning conversations can occur.

REPORT CARDS

Third trimester report cards will be available for online viewing through the Realtime Parent Portal on Friday, June 19th. Parents and students can access the Realtime Parent Portal through the district's website www.franklintwpschools.org. Please notify your child's respective school principal if you would like to receive a paper copy of your child's report card.

GRADING

During the school closure, priority learning standards were identified and the curriculum was truncated in order to continue to meet the learning needs of students. For Trimester 3, the recorded performance levels on the report cards are indicators of student progress towards meeting standards that were taught through virtual platforms. While the performance levels identify students' demonstrated understanding of these priority standards virtually, performance levels may not entirely reflect students' independent abilities due to the distance learning conditions that existed throughout Trimester 3.

With that, you may notice a performance level of an "I", for **Insufficient Evidence** on standards in certain subject areas. **It is important to remember that "I" is not a failure and it does not mean incomplete.** It simply means the teacher does not have enough evidence that indicates the independent level of the students' ability to meet the standard. Please refer to the comments section of your child's report card for further information as to why your child may have received an "I" for Insufficient Evidence.

Related Arts Teachers (Library, Phys. Ed, Art, Music, Spanish and Technology) have been directed to assign students an "S" for Satisfactory or "I" for Insufficient Evidence for the third trimester. If you have any questions regarding your child's report card or grading, please contact the individual teacher or the building principal.

SUMMER READING/ASSIGNMENTS

Due to COVID-19 school closures, we will not be assigning summer reading books or assignments to our students. Please continue to encourage your child to read over the summer! iReady will remain available throughout the summer for students to work on their individualized instructional path as an option if you so choose to have your child participate. iReady is a great option to keep your child learning throughout the summer.

SPECIAL EDUCATION EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM (ESY)

Our special education ESY program will be done virtually this summer. Special education parents of students who have been recommended for the ESY program will receive an email that includes details about the program and the services that will be offered. The email will also include a survey regarding participation in the program. We encourage our special education parents to complete the survey, as it will provide information that will allow us to properly plan this summer's program.

CHROMEBOOKS

A friendly reminder that the decision has been made to allow the students to keep their Chromebooks at home during the summer months. This does include the Chromebooks for our current sixth grade

students as these Chromebooks will be collected in the fall at Delsea. Please know that if you transfer your child to another school district, you will be required to return the Chromebook prior to transfer records being released. It is our hope that students will use the access to technology for educational purposes during the summer months. The curriculum department is working on a list of suggested academic activities that students can participate in using their Chromebooks.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2020-2021

The 2020-2021 Kindergarten registration is currently being done online. To register a child in Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year, please visit the district website www.franklintwpschools.org. Kindergarten registration information is located on the main webpage. Please pass this information on to anyone you may know that has a child that will be entering Kindergarten in September. If you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration, please email Mrs. Kathy Mahool at kmahool@franklintwpschools.org or Mrs. Sissy Vannini at svannini@franklintwpschools.org.

COMMUNICATION

During the summer months, we will update our school community members as information becomes available. Our district website will serve as the main resource for updates and we will continue to utilize our School Messenger System (email, voice calls, text messages, etc.) as well as social media, to keep you informed. Given the uncertainty of the times, it is more important than ever for parents/guardians to stay in tune with the correspondence that is sent from our school district. If you have not done so yet, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

As we move forward, our school district is here to support our students and school community. Once again, we cannot thank you enough for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us and let us know how we can be of assistance. Have a wonderful summer recess and stay safe.

Yours in education,



Mr. Troy Walton
Superintendent of Schools