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IMPORTANT: December 2020 Calendar Update

1 message

Collingswood and Oaklyn Public Schools <noreply@collsk12.org>

Thu, Nov 19, 2020 at 7:04 PM

To: jboulden@oaklynschool.org

Dear Collingswood and Oaklyn School Families:

As we move into Thanksgiving week, and the weeks after, I want to share information about the school schedule for students in Preschool through Grade 12+. With the schedule below, we are hoping to maximize in-person learning while taking reasonable precautions to keep everyone -- students and staff -- safe.

Next Week Monday, November 23 - Friday, November 27

- Monday 11/23 - All schools open - BLUE in-person
- Tuesday 11/24 - All schools open - GOLD in-person
- Wednesday 11/25 - All students full remote - follow regular Wednesday schedule.
- Thursday 11/26 and Friday 11/27 - Thanksgiving Break. Happy Thanksgiving.

Monday, November 30 - Friday, December 4 (Read This!)

- All schools and grades will follow an all-remote schedule this week as we monitor any potential spread of the virus following the Thanksgiving holiday. Based on the spread and transmission rate, we will make a decision for the following weeks once we see if the holiday causes a spike in numbers. All students will log-in from home following the regular weekday schedule.
- Middle and High Schools - Follow your regular schedule, just do so in a remote learning environment. Students will have four periods per day on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and an "All-8" Day on Wednesday, just as if we were in-person.
- Colls and Oaklyn Elementary Schools - We will move conference week to this week in an attempt to minimize any additional disruption during the weeks leading up to the Winter break. Teachers will be in touch with parents to schedule feedback conferences. There will be no reports cards and formal grades assigned. Instead, teachers will discuss learning - where your child excels, where they may struggle a bit, and how you can partner together to support each other and keep learning moving forward. Do not expect a traditional conference. The schedule for the week will be as follows:
 - 9:00a-12:00p: Synchronous Teaching Time (teachers will also assign an hour of independent work to meet the state mandated 4-hour minimum)
 - 12:00p - 1:00p: Lunch
 - 1:00p-3:00p: Conferences (via Zoom)*
- *Teachers have limited evening conference opportunities available. If you absolutely need a conference outside of the times designated above, please work directly with the teacher to schedule.
- Traditional Report Card Conferences will take the form of "opportunities for feedback." Teachers will talk more about teaching and learning and less about grades. They are experts in their craft - they know where your children are thriving and where they may be struggling. This is your golden opportunity to partner together to move your children forward.

- Colls and Oaklyn Preschools - We will also move conference week to this week in an attempt to minimize any additional disruption during the weeks leading up to the Winter break. Teachers will be in touch with parents to schedule feedback conferences. The schedule for the week will follow the elementary schedule above, but run 15-minutes later (i.e., start time at 9:15am, just like a typical day).

Monday, December 7 - Friday, December 18

- We hope to be back on our regular in-person hybrid schedule for these two weeks. We will monitor virus activity and spread and make the call by Wednesday, December 2. We will continue to monitor the cases on the [NJ COVID Dashboard](#) and the [COVID-19 Activity Level Index](#). If our region moves into the red zone, we will implement full-remote learning immediately. Under the orange zone, we will consult with the Camden County Department of Health regarding community transmission rates and make decisions accordingly. The message here is a simple one - BE PREPARED. You may not get much notice.

Monday, December 21 - Friday, January 1

- We will use the same metrics as described above to decide if schools will remain open for in-person instruction. If schools can remain open, the schedule will be as follows:
- Monday 12/21 - All Schools open - BLUE in-person
- Tuesday 12/22 - All Schools open - GOLD in-person
- Wednesday 12/23 - All students will attend a full remote learning day following the regular Wednesday schedule.
- Thursday 12/24 through Friday 1/1 - Winter Break and *Celebration of the END of 2020!*

To summarize, these are the plans as of today and some insight into how decisions will be made moving forward. We will continue to monitor the state dashboard and weekly CALI reports to determine if we can keep schools open for in-person learning. We're doing our best to keep everyone safe, yet maintain connections with our students, particularly those who who need those school-based connections the most.

Advice shared previously remains the same:

- If you are traveling over the Thanksgiving holiday, please plan to quarantine and learn remotely for two weeks upon your return.
- If you are gathering with a large group of people who do not live in your home over the Thanksgiving holiday, please plan to quarantine for two weeks after Thanksgiving.
- If you are able to keep your children home for the two weeks after Thanksgiving without undue hardship on your family, please consider doing so. We want to be available for the students and families who need in-person learning opportunities the most. Without everyone's cooperation, that will not happen.

As I have said a million times already, thank you for your cooperation and understanding. And please, above all else, **PLAN NOW.**

Stay Safe and always #BeKind!
Scott A. Oswald, Ed.D.
Superintendent