



Willingboro Public Schools

Where Excellence is the Expectation

DR. NEELY HACKETT
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

COUNTRY CLUB ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
440 BEVERLY RANCOCAS ROAD
WILLINGBORO, NEW JERSEY 08040
TELEPHONE: (609) 835-8600 EXT. 1013
FAX (609) 835- 3880

January 12, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well.

The Willingboro Board of Education approved the resolution listed below at its meeting on January 11, 2021.

Be it resolved that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to revise the Option 2 end date from Thursday, February 4, 2021 to Friday, April 16, 2021. As a result of this revision, Option 1 would begin on Monday, April 19, 2021.

Students will return to hybrid instruction on April 19, 2021. The decision to extend remote instruction was not taken lightly as I am cognizant of the fact that research indicates that face-to-face instruction is the best method to create an environment in which students can excel both academically and emotionally. However, I believe at this time, it is in the best interest of the Willingboro students, staff and parents to extend remote learning.

As of January 12, 2021, COVID-19 numbers have increased by 7.2% when compared to the previous week. The statewide rate of transmission rate as of January 10, 2021, is 1.08 and remains above the key benchmark of 1 that shows the outbreak is growing. A 1.08 rate of transmission means that every 100 people infected will spread the virus to 108 other people. Based on this data, I do not believe it is safe at this time to have large amounts of people in our school buildings.

Please be assured that the District will continue to ensure that we offer relevant and rigorous instruction guided by the analysis of formative assessment data. On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, the district staff will engage in the 7th virtual instruction professional development session (students will have an asynchronous learning day). We will continue to provide staff with job-embedded professional development. Our primary goal is to provide a quality education for our students that is engaging, relevant, targeted and specific to on-going data analysis.

I encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (maintaining 6 feet of distance-please note that person of contact for a positive COVID-19 case is defined as anyone who has been exposed to the person for less than 6 feet and for 10 or more cumulative minutes);
- Wearing a face covering;
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

In addition, please be mindful of the following:

- Quarantine time for exposure to a non-household person who is positive for COVID-19 is 14 days.
- Quarantine time for exposure to a household person who is positive for COVID-19 is 24 days.
- Quarantine time for a person who tested positive for COVID-19 is 10 days.
- Quarantine time for a person who has COVID-19 symptoms is 10 days.

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. We look forward to students returning to school on April 19, 2021. Should you have any questions about remote instruction, please feel free to contact your child's principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Neely Hackett
Superintendent