

Northern Burlington County Regional School District

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Dear NB Families:

NB's Safe Return Plan (SRP) Anticipates 100% In-Person & Full Days for September 2021. The final days of the school year are always exciting. Life-long memories are being made as our students enjoy the traditional year end activities and celebrations including prom, various awards ceremonies, the senior trip, and of course, Graduation Day 2021. We all recognize just how this school year has been a year like no other. We all wish our seniors the best as they transition from high school to post secondary life. Some will go on to continue their studies, some will serve in the military, and others will begin their careers in the workforce. This is also a time of transition for the administration and faculty as we close out the current school year and begin preparations for opening day in September. We all know just how quickly the summer weeks pass. This summer will be an extremely busy one at NB as we not only manage the high school construction project but also finalize our "Safe Return Plan" (SRP) in preparation for opening day in September.

As school districts across New Jersey make final arrangements for these traditional year end activities, school boards are also being asked to develop and approve their "Safe Return Plan." Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each school district that receives ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to develop and make publicly available on its website, its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services (Safe Return Plan). The ARP Act further requires that districts seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account when finalizing the Safe Return Plan.

NB has been working on its Safe Return Plan for September and has posted the plan on the district web site. In fact, NB's "Program Expansion Planning Committee" has been meeting regularly this spring. This committee supported efforts to monitor and assess COVID activity in the region, assess program status, and recommend opportunities to expand program opportunities for our students as appropriate. The committee has also initiated strategic planning for September. To this end, I am pleased to advise the NB community that a draft of the plan is posted on the district's web page. The administration has discussed this plan with the Board of Education at the public meeting on Monday, June 14, 2021 and provided the community opportunity for input as well.

As you review the plan, please note that the NB Board of Education is planning for 100% in-person instruction in September. School days will return to full days of in-person instruction, lunches will be served, and a return to normalcy will be welcomed.

Finally, please note that NB will periodically review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan. The NB Board of Education will continue to develop the plan throughout the summer and again present the plan at its August meeting. This will afford the Board and our community more time to comment on the plan and allow this board to respond to evolving guidelines and make adjustments to the plan before school starts in September.

Sincerely,

James Sarruda, Ed.D.
Superintendent