

Fair Lawn Public Schools

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Nicholas J. Norcia
Superintendent of Schools

November 23, 2020

Dear Fair Lawn Community,

As a district and community, we have been working together for the past eight months to do our part to slow the spread of the virus. I am proud of our progress since we've implemented our hybrid schedule six weeks ago and how we as a community are dealing with COVID, but the pandemic is still here and numbers are increasing daily.

As stated in my letters to you the past few weeks, we have been working closely with the Fair Lawn Health Department to monitor all cases in the Fair Lawn Schools. All individuals with confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered and have resumed their normal activities or are still quarantining. As a district, we have taken the necessary steps as directed by the Fair Lawn Department of Health and CDC to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.

That said, the spread of COVID-19 is increasing across the country and in surrounding school districts. As I am sure you are aware, many schools in Bergen County and across the state have halted in-person instruction and gone fully remote. For week ending November 14, The NJ Department of Health's [COVID-19 Activity Level Index \(CALI\)](#) increased to High (orange) from a Moderate Risk (yellow), indicating we are at a high-risk category for COVID-19 transmission. Coupled with this is the arrival of the seasonal winter colds, allergies, and the flu. I cannot stress this enough:

- If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them home.
- If you or someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19, please keep your children home from school.
- Please fill out the Genesis Health Screening daily.
- Many COVID-19 symptoms are similar to seasonal allergies, please do not assume and check with your physician.
- If you are unsure and would like further guidance, please call your schools nurse or principal.
- As your children walk home from school, please encourage them to wear masks, while walking with friends.

As we approach the Thanksgiving Recess from Nov. 26-29, I ask that you follow [New Jersey's Travel Advisory](#) and adhere to out-of-state travel restrictions, follow the CDC's indoor gathering regulations and Gov. Murphy's new executive order announced on Nov. 16 that retightened restrictions to limit the number of those gathering indoors from 25 to 10. As we all readjust our Thanksgiving plans, know that this will not be a normal holiday season, nor will it be a normal school year.

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We are all feeling the pandemic fatigue and with the upcoming holiday season right around the corner, we cannot let our guard down. We thank you for your support and ask that when on school property, you continue to social distance and wear masks, even after school hours.

Wishing all of you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving break!

Sincerely,



Nicholas J. Norcia, Superintendent of Schools