

Fair Lawn Public Schools

37-01 Fair Lawn Avenue, Fair Lawn, NJ

(201) 794-5500 x7090

Email: nmorcia@fairlawnschools.org

Nicholas J. Norcia
Superintendent of Schools

March 24, 2021

Dear Fair Lawn Community,

I am pleased to announce the district is on track to implement its Phase III Reopening Plan on Monday, April 12 after Spring Break. The district's goal since the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year has been to safely increase in-person student learning opportunities. Throughout the school year, the district has made gradual changes to increase in-person learning while following the current public health data and guidance from state and local health officials. There is light at the end of the tunnel and we are heading in the right direction as teachers, staff and administration, as well as the community, receive their vaccinations.

Based off the feedback we received from our latest survey, logistics that come with social distancing, we are pleased that we will be able to offer a model of increased in-person learning for all three levels, elementary, middle and high school. This next phase is a step in the right direction to returning our schools to normalcy. **Please note families will continue to have the option to remain fully remote through the end of the school year and may choose this option at any time by notifying your child's principal.**

Phase III Reopen Plan:

- **Elementary Schools** - students in A and B cohort **will come together** to attend five half days a week until 12:45 p.m., home for lunch (grab and go lunch available), virtual instruction will resume each afternoon with the exception of Wednesdays.
- **Middle Schools and High School** - students will remain in A and B cohorts but will transition to a **full day hybrid schedule** with grab and go lunches in school. On Wednesdays, students will attend a half day.

Since Friday, March 19, 2021, we received the following updated guidance from the **CDC** and from the **New Jersey Department of Health**. We have added links to both guidance documents and have highlighted important changes that will affect our reopening plan:

Friday, March 19, 2021	CDC Guidance for Reopening Schools	* Evidence suggests that many K-12 schools that have strictly implemented prevention strategies have been able to safely open for in-person instruction and remain open. * Revised physical distancing recommendations to reflect at least 3 feet between students in classrooms and provide clearer guidance when a greater distance (such as 6 feet) is recommended.
------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Fair Lawn Public Schools

Wednesday, March 24, 2021	New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools Updated March 23, 2021	<p>*Based on available data, in-person learning in schools has not been associated with substantial community transmission.</p> <p>*Elementary Schools: recommend full in-person instruction. A minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students should be maintained in classrooms with strict adherence to mask wearing. See page 4.</p> <p>*Middle/High Schools: Recommend 6 feet of physical distancing between students to the maximum extent practicable with strict adherence to mask wearing. See page 4.</p> <p>*Continue to mask up, hand wash and practice respiratory etiquette.</p> <p>*Vaccinated teachers and staff should continue to wear masks and stay at least 6 feet away from others. Fully vaccinated persons who have close contact with someone with COVID-19 do NOT need to quarantine (for further criteria, see pages 17-18.)</p>
---------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

In elementary classrooms where we will be using less than 6 feet for learning, your school principal will contact parents of those students to determine if they are still committed to in-person instruction. This is only a few classrooms for all of our elementary schools.

As we all look forward to the district's Spring Break from April 2-9, non-essential travel outside the immediate area is still strongly discouraged as per the [NJDOH](#) recommendations.

Should you have any questions regarding the next phase on April 12, please contact your school principal.

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing your children back on Monday, April 12!

Sincerely,



Nicholas J. Norcia, Superintendent of Schools