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**Take Five Briefing**  
**Board of Education Meeting**  
**July 28, 2020**

We understand that members of our school community may not be able to attend Board of Education meetings. To help keep stakeholders informed, the Take Five Briefing has been developed by the administration to touch upon five key topics discussed at the most recent public Board meeting.

Please view the meeting documents [here](#).

1. **Reopening Presentation:** Superintendent Mark Schwarz presented the updated [district reopening plan](#) and the administration answered a wide array of questions from the Board and the public. The district is required to submit its restart plan to the NJDOE at least four weeks prior to the beginning of school and is currently finalizing the reopening parameters.
2. **Phased Approach Outlined:** The reopening presentation provided information about how a variety of data factors will be used to determine different operating phases throughout the year. Phase 1, which is the district's current planned status, provides students with two days per week of in-person instruction on an early dismissal schedule and three days of remote instruction. Student schedules will vary based on grade level and efforts will be made to keep families of students on the same schedule where possible. Parents may also request an accommodation for full-time remote instruction in lieu of attending school in one of the two cohorts. A move to Phase 2, in which students would attend school each day on an early dismissal schedule, or a move to Phase 3, which would be a full return to school, would be based on consistent improvements in health data and safety compliance.
3. **2020-2021 Calendar Change:** The Board approved a change to the [2020-2021 district calendar](#), in response to the uncertainty regarding the reopening of schools. The change moves the start day for students to Tuesday, September 8th, and shifts graduation to Friday, June 18th. Staff will be provided with five days of professional development during the week of August 31 to prepare for the hybrid and remote teaching and learning scenarios.
4. **FAQ Document Forthcoming:** The district will be gathering the myriad questions surrounding the reopening of school to update a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document that was published on July 17th. The updated questions will be posted on the website and will be distributed through the district app when available.
5. **Kean University Diversity Council Agreement:** The Board approved an agreement with the Kean University Diversity Council, which will provide free access to staff to two its courses: *Teaching the Holocaust* and *Teaching Prejudice Reduction*. The agreement supports other district initiatives related to diversity and inclusion such as curriculum updates on Holocaust/Genocide, LGBTQ+ and Disabilities, and the Amistad Commission; a District Goal Workgroup on Social Justice; and an anti-racism community advisory group.