

# **Evesham Township School District**

Meland Administration Building, 25 South Maple Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053 www.evesham.k12.nj.us · (856) 983-1800 · Fax # (856) 983-2939

Dr. Justin Smith, Superintendent Mr. John Recchinti, School Business Administrator Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Mr. Richard G. Dantinne, Jr., Director of Personnel

March 31, 2021

Dear ETSD Families,

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."
-- Helen Keller

<u>Highlights this week</u>: Schools Update; Busing; Travel Quarantine Reminder; Community Activities.

#### **Schools Update**

We are planning to be open for in-person school the week after Break. Some districts in our county are doing the same, while others will be remote after Break. We superintendents are in communication about many decisions, including this one. Variables differ district to district, as they have all year, e.g. in some districts up to half of all students are full remote. Here in Evesham, as of today, 76% of our students are in person, our highest percentage of in-person status so far this year. We are a PreK-G8 district, and the opportunity for in-person learning can be even more important for younger students. Except after Winter Break when case rates were highest in our region and nationwide, we have made closure decisions this year on a school by school basis, based on data. The data shows we can stay open. Our individual schools have student populations greater than those of entire districts in our county. For these reasons and more, we are planning to be open for in-person school after Spring Break.

Per our plan, all in-person elementary students will be in school together everyday starting Monday, April 12. This means students who have been Cohort B up to now will come to school on Monday, April 12. We have been progressing toward that goal incrementally over the past six weeks, reflected in the fact that nearly 75% of our in-person elementary students are already coming to school every day. Furthermore, all in-person middle school students are slated to be in school together every day starting Monday, April 19. If, on April 15, our region is still Orange/High Risk as in this most recent COVID-19 Activity Level Report, we may delay that MS timeline, per NJ Dept. of Health guidance. Our revised 2020-21 ETSD Calendar continues to show A and B days just in case this adjustment is needed.

## Busing

Parents of in-person elementary students, before April 12, please check <u>ETSD Genesis Parent Portal</u> for updated busing information, especially for parents of students who have been Cohort B. As in-person attendance increases, aisle seats are being used. As has been the case all year, students must wear masks on the bus, and the bus windows are kept open, weather permitting. Families can also drive.



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#### **Travel Quarantine Reminder**

Travel quarantine is required in ETSD to protect our students and staff, as well as ensure our schools can remain open for in-person learning. There are no exemptions to travel quarantine based on vaccination or prior COVID diagnosis. *Students quarantining after Spring Break and beyond due to travel are able to attend school remotely.* Please see our <u>ETSD Required Travel</u> Quarantine doc for more info.

## **Community Activities**

Great new postings on our <u>Community Activities</u> webpage! Free Trees, KidzArt Summer Camps, and YMCA of the Pines Camps.

This year continues to be a total team effort of families and schools. Thank you all for your contributions! With all of us doing our parts together, masks, distancing, and more, we can make this last phase of the school year be the best yet, and be a great springboard into summer and the start of next year.

I wish everyone a safe, restful Spring Break with family and friends!

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools