



SADDLE BROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Danielle M. Shanley
Superintendent of Schools

IMPORTANT - December Schedule

December 10, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) released a COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix that identified four levels of risk, Low (green), Moderate (yellow), High (orange), Very High (red), based on a COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI). Within this guidance document (link below), schools are mandated to close once a region reaches a Very High (red) CALI rating. Schools may also “consider fully remote learning,” in coordination with our local health department, once a particular region reaches High Risk (orange). [Please review the most recent guidance from the NJ Department of Health to K-12 Schools - updated 11/19/2020.](#)

The NJDOH releases a weekly COVID-19 Activity Level Report, which indicates our region (Northeast) is currently at High Risk (orange). Our region’s percent positivity has been increasing, and it is anticipated these numbers will continue to rise throughout the holiday season. In addition, as you are aware, the district has had to implement fully remote learning in the Middle/High School (returning 12/10/2020), and in Long School (returning 12/15/2020) due to recent incidents of COVID-19 cases among members of our school community. Some of those quarantines unfortunately impacted the Thanksgiving Holiday for staff, students and their families.

Based upon the current information from the NJDOE and the BCDOH, and to better protect the health, safety and well being of all members of our school community, *The Saddle Brook School District will provide in-person instruction through and including Friday, December 18, 2020. December 21, 22 and 23 will be FULLY VIRTUAL.* Please know and trust that this decision was made out of necessity and only after careful consideration. Colored cohorts will lose only one in-person day before the break.

We recognize the increases in those who need to quarantine are often due to exposure outside of school. We also acknowledge that the goings-on outside of school in preparation for the holidays, expose many people more than necessary during a pandemic. If you travel or spend any time with people outside of your immediate household, ***we are instructing you to keep your children home for 14 days from your return from travel, or from the last day you came into contact with people outside of your immediate household.*** Your children can work from home, and will receive credit for attending classes when on time and completing their work. If you need to change your child’s cohort to purely virtual, you **MUST** contact your principal. Our goal is to keep everyone healthy as we approach the upcoming holidays. Our administrative team doesn’t want anyone to be quarantined unnecessarily during what is supposed to be the most magical time of the year.

COVID TESTING HAS RESUMED at Bergen Community College. For information of dates and times, please follow this [LINK](#). If you would like to get tested, you may register [HERE](#).

Additionally, please watch your children and yourselves for [signs and symptoms of COVID](#).

Wishing you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season,