



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Office of the Superintendent of Schools
July 17, 2020**

**The Holmdel Board of Education Announces Plans
to Mitigate Risks in Preparation for Re-Opening**

Holmdel Township Board of Education has partnered with Spiegle Architectural Group, Inc., Greyhawk Construction Management and Consulting, and Schiller and Hersh Associates, Inc., to conduct a district wide re-occupancy assessment in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and reopening our schools in September.

“We are proud to support the Holmdel Township Schools in their facility assessment,” said Steve Siegel, Principal at Spiegle Architectural Group, Inc. “They have been very forward-thinking in implementing new strategies, policies and procedures to provide a safer education to our community.”

Throughout the duration of a four-week period, district administration and its consulting team, visited Holmdel High School, W. R. Satz Middle School, Indian Hill Elementary School, Village Elementary School, and the Holmdel Township Board of Education offices to assess the facilities, and develop an outline of strategies for the process of re-occupying the facilities while maintaining the health, safety and welfare of the students, staff, and general public.

These strategies include physical measures as well as policies and procedures which were developed under the regulations of the New Jersey State Governor’s Office Executive Orders, the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the New Jersey Department of Education’s Restart and Recovery Plan for Education.

The district will be updating various policies and procedures, and has made preparations to cover considerations including, but not limited to scheduling, athletics, and food services at each school. The primary measures being addressed at this time include:

- Implementing UV-C lighting for disinfecting after hours
- Installing bipolarionization filtration units in HVAC systems
- Installing site signage and parking limitations
- Installing signage at school entries
- Installing thermal temperature detection devices at entries
- Installing physical barriers (such as sneeze guards) at vestibules, in main offices and in nurse offices
- Installing antimicrobial coatings on commonly used surfaces, such as doorknobs, push bars, railings, bathroom fixtures and playground equipment
- Installing directional decals on floors to separate hallways and indicate directions of travel for students, teachers and visitors
- Installing hand sanitizer dispensers in each classroom and key locations
- Adjusting the spacing of classroom and nurse office furniture for physical distancing

- Maintaining new, enhanced cleaning procedures
- Installing urinal partitions in men's and boy's restrooms
- Installing automatic paper towel and soap dispensers
- Providing the necessary and appropriate PPE
- Retro-commissioning the District HVAC systems

“We’re doing everything we can to ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff,” says Dr. Lee Seitz, Interim Superintendent of Schools. “It is our hope that the strategies we’re taking will reduce the risks of exposure and transmission of COVID-19. The district will continue to provide updates and information as they become available.”

Updates regarding the reopening plans will be provided to the Board at upcoming public meetings in July and August. The Board will schedule a special meeting to approve the reopening plan for submission to the State on August 12, 2020.