



# HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents,

During the past few weeks, we have been working closely with the Holmdel Township Board of Education, our teachers and staff members, the Monmouth County Superintendents, the Department of Health, and the NJ Department of Education to develop our restart program. Our District and School Restart Committees, which includes members of the Board of Education, administrative team, teachers, school nurses, and parents, met to consider how to best keep our students and staff safe and provide a quality instructional program as we prepare to reopen.

**We learned a great deal since suddenly being forced to move to a full time virtual classroom last spring and we are applying those lessons to the upcoming school year.** Our proposed instructional program will be structured within a four hour student instructional day following the early dismissal schedule at each school and with additional virtual office hours each afternoon for differentiation, small and large class meetings, etc. Each class period will begin with a live and online introductory lesson followed by in class and online activities with increased use of educational software. Nightly homework will include a video or screencast to succinctly deliver the lesson content for the following day to the students and prompt student response to that content. Please note that we will not be providing lunch to reduce the chance of creating a potential breeding group for the virus.

The complete Holmdel restart plan will be shared with the community at a Special Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2020. This plan will reflect the most up-to-date guidance from the NJ Department of Education and the CDC and will be subject to revision as conditions may change between now and when we open on September 14, 2020, and literally, throughout the entire school year. Our plan is designed to carry us through the entire 20-21 school year if necessary.

For students in grades K through 12, 50% of the students will be in Cohort A and the other 50% of the students will be in Cohort B. Students in Cohort A will attend school on Monday and Thursday, and participate virtually on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students in Cohort B will attend school on Tuesday, and Friday, and participate virtually on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Schedules for students in self-contained special education programs, including Preschool Disabled and resource room programs, are still being finalized at this time. It is likely that only the Preschool Disabled program will attend school five days per week and the LLD and MD programs will attend school four days per week and participate virtually on Wednesdays. All other IEP students will follow the hybrid A/B schedule, i.e. have a virtual Wednesday.

A decision on Prime Time has not been finalized at this time but we anticipate it being available for students on the days that they are in school. A decision on Prime Time will be made no later than August 12th and likely much sooner.

Our restart plan will provide you with detailed information regarding the health and safety protocols that will be implemented. Cohort assignments, information about a virtual-only option, transportation, and expectations for student participation will be shared after the plan is approved by the Board of Education.

We know these are challenging times and we are doing our best to provide our students with a high quality instructional program that meets the needs of all students during this pandemic. Please feel free to visit our website for more information and please contact your child's principal if you have specific questions or concerns after the restart plan is released on August 12th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Seitz", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Lee Seitz  
Interim Superintendent of Schools