

Public Schools of Edison Township

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> Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

August 10, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the start of the 2021-2022 school year! We are excited to have all of our students back in our schools this September and return to some degree of normalcy. For some of our students, this will be their first return to our schools since March of 2019. With this in mind, we will have additional support in place to help ease this transition back to school, and we are excited to have all our students back on campus. All schools open on September 1, 2021 and the first day of school will follow a delayed opening schedule. School start times can be found <u>here</u>.

As you may already know, Governor Murphy recently issued Executive Order 251 mandating face mask usage for indoor activities in school; in addition, masks are required when students are on buses.

We are happy to share some new initiatives being implemented this year. The first is our Early College partnership with Middlesex College, where students graduate high school with both a diploma and associate degree. This offers a significant cost saving for our students and gives them a 2-year headstart on their college career. To enroll your child or get more information on this program, please contact your child's guidance counselor or building principal. You can also access information by clicking <u>here</u>.

Some other enhancements include the creation of our first-ever eSports Arena at Edison High School. We are excited about this new learning space and the start of this program in September. In addition, we created a larger cafeteria space at John P. Stevens High School to accommodate our students during their lunch periods better. Finally, the Lincoln Elementary School addition construction has already begun and is anticipated to be completed in September 2022. These are just a few of the many structural improvements taking place in our school district.

We continue to reflect and revise our programming, and as such, in the coming school year we have added several new courses. Course additions include: Calculus 3, AP Research, Integrated Science, and Contemporary Health Issues. At the Elementary level, the district adopted a new science program aligned with the next generation science standards, providing challenging opportunities for our students to utilize the scientific method via experimentation, inquiry and discovery. These are a few samples of the many enhancements taking place in the district for the 2021-2022 school year.

We remain committed to providing our students with the superlative education for which the Edison Public School District is known and look forward to working together as your child continues their educational journey, settling for *"Nothing Less Than Excellence"*.

As always, continue to Shine Bright Edison!

Sincerely, Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Ed. Superintendent of School

Nothing Less Than Excellence