

P.O. Box 997 Sayreville, New Jersey 08871 Phone: 732-525-5200 Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Talk Sup Week 15 Review and Preview

December 14, 2020

Good morning Sayreville and welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup*. I hope you had a relaxing weekend.

Along with the cases that I reported to you and the entire community last week, yesterday we received notification that an individual from the Sayreville Middle School tested positive for COVID-19. We are currently in the process of conducting contact tracing in accordance with Center for Disease Control (CDC) and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines in order to determine if any individuals from the school were in close contact with the infected individual and therefore in need of quarantining for 14 days from the last date of contact with that person. If we determine any, later this morning those people will be formally notified. For the most up to date information on the number of individuals who have tested positive or who have been determined to be in close contact with a person who has tested positive, please see the Student and Staff COVID-19 Dashboards, which are located on the School Safety and Security of our website and can be accessed by clicking <u>here</u>.

As some of our parents may or may not know, the district has been providing free (no out of pocket expense) and easy access asymptomatic testing for our staff and their families. We also extended the same offer to our friends who work for the Borough of Sayreville. As has been well documented and is currently being broadcast regularly through the media as a public service announcement, getting regularly tested for COVID-19 is a crucial strategy for preventing the spread of the virus and thus is highly recommended by the healthcare industry. While some, like me, also get regularly tested for peace of mind, the primary reason for this service is to identify individuals who are infected but are asymptomatic, as unfortunately there is evidence that these individuals can unknowingly act as super spreaders of the virus. In fact, one of the cases reported in my broadcast email to the community last week was actually detected because the infected person participated in the asymptomatic testing services that we provide. Therefore, I am pleased to inform our parents that beginning on Wednesday, December 30th, we will now invite our students, their parents, and anyone else residing in their household who can provide proof of health insurance; to be tested weekly with us. Naturally, we want to test our staff and their residing family members, as well as our students and their residing family members so that we can ensure to the best degree possible that none of our staff and students are infected or in close contact with someone who may be before they reenter our buildings on January 5th after the long holiday recess. Although the first date of student/family testing is set for a Wednesday because we do not think anyone will want to do so on New Year's Eve, testing for students and the family members that reside with them will take place in the late afternoon on Thursdays after we test our staff. Thus, we will test staff on Thursdays from 1-3 pm, and then students and their family members from 3:30 – 6:30 pm. Later this week I will share more information on how parents can register themselves, their children, and other residing family members for asymptomatic COVID-19 testing. Below please find the schedule for testing through January.

- Wednesday, December 16, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm for staff/family)
- Thursday, December 17, 2020 (1:00 3:00pm for staff/family)
- Tuesday, December 22, 2020 (1:00 3:00pm for staff/family)
- Wednesday, December 23, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm for staff/family)
- Wednesday, December 30, 2020 (12:00 3:00 pm for staff/family and 3:30 6:30 pm for students/family)
- Wednesday, January 6, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm staff/family)
- Thursday, January 7, 2020 (1:00 3:00 pm for staff/family and 3:30 6:30 pm for students/family)
- Wednesday, January 13, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm for staff/family)

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- Thursday, January 14, 2020 (1:00 3:00 pm for staff/family and 3:30 6:30 pm for students/family)
- Wednesday, January 20, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm for staff/family)
- Thursday, January 21, 2020 (1:00 3:00 pm for staff/family and 3:30 6:30 pm for students/family)
- Wednesday, January 27, 2020 (12:30 2:30 pm for staff/family)
- Thursday, January 28, 2020 (1:00 3:00 pm for staff/family and 3:30 6:30 pm for students/family)



This week our students in grades K-5 will continue to participate in Phase 2<u>b</u> of hybrid instruction while students in grades 6-12 Cohort A&B remain in Phase 2<u>a</u>. Therefore, students in grades K-5 Cohort B will attend school for in-person instruction today (Monday, December 14th) and on Thursday, December 17th, while K-5 Cohort A does so on Tuesday, December 15th and Friday, December 18th. Likewise, students in grades 6-12 Cohorts A&B will

participate in in-person instruction on **Tuesday**, **December 15th** and **Thursday**,

December 17th. Naturally, students in Cohort C (preschool and MD/BD self-contained classrooms) will attend school for in-person instruction on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

After careful consideration, we have decided to make **Monday, December 21st and Tuesday, December 22nd** <u>virtual instruction days for all students</u>. Due to the increasing holiday surge of cases and the impact that it may have on staffing, particularly with the holiday recess fast approaching, we do not feel that we will be able to safely and effectively staff our schools for in-person instruction. Furthermore, we hope that this will limit the amount of potential exposure that our students and staff will have prior to the holiday recess. Similarly, when we return from the holiday recess, we will begin in-person instruction during the week of **January 4th** in **Phase 2a** for <u>all students</u> before transitioning the next week (week of **January 11th**) back to the current programming that we have this week, which is **Phase 2b** for students in **grades K-5 and Cohort C** (preschool and MD/BD self-contained classrooms), and **Phase 2a** for students in **grades 6-12**. Speaking of this week, the weather forecasts are currently predicting **heavy snow** for **Wednesday evening into Thursday**. If by Wednesday we receive reliable information that confirms this, we will make Thursday and potentially Friday, depending on how much snow we get, virtual instruction days for all students. Naturally, I will send our staff and the parents of our students a broadcast email and phone call on Wednesday notifying them of this if we decide to do so. Below please find the calendar through the end of December and beginning of January.

DECEMBER/JANUARY						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		
14 К-5 СОНОПТ В & С	15 6-12 COHORT A, B, & C K-5 COHORT A & C	December 16 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	17 6-12 COHORT A, B, & C K-5 COHORT B & C	18 K-5 COHORT A & C		
21 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	22 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	December 23 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	24 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess	25 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess		

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28 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess	29 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess	30 Testing for Staff and Students Schools Closed for Holiday Recess	31 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess	January 1 Schools Closed for Holiday Recess
4 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	5 6-12 COHORT A, B, & C K-5 COHORT A & C	January 6 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	7 <mark>6-12</mark> COHORT <mark>A, B</mark> , & C K-5 COHORT B & C	8 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students
11 K-5 COHORT B & C	12 6-12 COHORT A, B, & C K-5 COHORT A & C	January 13 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	14 6-12 COHORT A, B, & C K-5 COHORT B & C	15 K-5 COHORT A & C

To review information about our Restart of School Plan, including our updated FAQs, click here.



In our schools this past week, Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) students in our computer science classes participated in Computer Science Education Week. Among other many cool activities, their teachers engaged them in



several opportunities to meet and learn from alumni from SWMHS who are now working and in the computer science industry. In other happenings at SWMHS, Mr. Glidden's class showed off the amazing results of their gardening efforts. At the Eisenhower Elementary School, students got into the holiday spirit by making gingerbread houses.

This past week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by congratulating SWMHS Football players Javiion Simmon, Janiel Taveras, Jalen Roman, Rodney Acquah, Ryan Bouchard, Santana Fonseca, and Michael Steiner for being selected to the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) All- Division Team. Bomber Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



Sayreville BOE Meeting 11-17-2020 Part 2 Tomorrow evening at **7:30 pm**, there will be a Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting in the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Cafeteria. During it, the district will

kick-off its series of 2021-22 School District Budget preparation presentations with the proposed 2021-22 Food Services or Enterprise Account Budget Presentation. To see the agenda for the meeting, click <u>here</u>. In order to access the live streaming of the meeting click <u>here</u>. Since

the viewing of the live stream will be handled by YouTube, you must be viewing the stream on a browser or application that is live stream compatible. If you are unable to hear audio you may need



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to try a different browser/application. The live stream will only be available during the real-time duration of the meeting. Directions for public participation during the meeting will be provided on the above mentioned live stream page of the website. Finally, if on Wednesday you wish to view it or other past-recorded BOE meetings, click here. Likewise, this Wednesday (December 16th) at 6 pm we invite and encourage all interested parents to participate in the Learning How to Use Learning A-Z Resources Virtual Workshop, which is being presented by Parent University. For more information on it, click here.

As per our 2020-21 School District Calendar, which you can access by clicking here, and the December Head of the

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Class Calendar, which you can see by clicking here, please remember that there will be a **BOE Business Meeting** on **December 15th**. Please also remember that our schools will be closed and there will be no in-person nor virtual instruction from December 24, 2020 through January 1, 2021 for the holiday recess. Furthermore, please note there will be <u>no office hours</u> on December 23rd so that our staff members can prepare for the holiday weekend. Finally, please note that 1st Marking Period Report Cards for

students in grades K-5 will be issued on December 16th. Likewise, 2nd Marking Period Progress Reports for students in grades 6-12 will be issued on December 17th.



As was the case last spring, the district is now permitted to provide FREE meals for ALL parents who wish to order breakfast and/or lunch for their child(ren). Therefore, if you would like to order FREE prepackaged bagged breakfasts and lunches daily, please do so on My School Bucks by clicking here. For more information on how to order through My School Bucks, download the app, and to see the delivery locations as well as the estimated times of delivery, click here. Finally, to apply for free and/or reduced lunch for your child, click here. Finally, if you have additional questions, please email Nancy Mannino (nancy.mannino@sayrevillek12.net), our director of Food Services.



If you or someone you know would like to advertise with us on our website and via Bomber Blasts, you should click here and submit an inquiry with School Revenue Partners. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **busses**, click here. Lastly, if you or someone you know wants to lease our facilities, contact Deborah DeVico at deborah.devico@savrevillek12.net.

Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe