



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

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Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

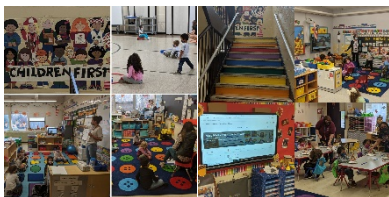
Talk Sup Week 11 Review and Preview

November 16, 2020

Good morning Sayreville. I hope you had a pleasant weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup*. This week we will begin in-person instruction for all remaining students in the district. Today, students in grades 2-3 will join our K-1 students for in-person instruction at their elementary schools in Phase 2**b**. Thus, all kindergarten through 3rd grade students in **Cohort B** will participate in in-person instruction **today (Monday, November 16th)** and **Thursday, November 19th** while **Cohort A** does so tomorrow (**Tuesday, November 17th**) and **Friday, November 20th**. Similarly, students at SUES, SMS, and SWMHS will also begin in-person instruction **tomorrow**, but will do so in Phase 2**a** rather than 2b. Thus, 4-12th grade students in **Cohort A** will attend in-person instruction on **Tuesday, November 17th** while **Cohort B** does so on **Thursday, November 19th**.

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday recess next week, all **K-12** students in **Cohort B and C** (preschool and MD/BD self-contained classrooms) will participate in in-person instruction on **Monday, November 23rd** while **K-12 Cohort A and C** will participate in it on **Tuesday, November 24th**. Our tentative plan for the week of November 30th is to advance students in grades 4-5 to Phase 2b but keep students in grades 6-12 Cohort A&B in Phase 2a. Below please find the tentative calendar through the end of November. To review information about our Restart of School Plan, including our updated FAQs, click [here](#).

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
16 K-3 COHORT B & C	17 K-12 COHORT A & C	18 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	19 K-12 COHORT B & C	20 K-3 COHORT A & C
23 K-12 COHORT B & C	24 K-12 COHORT A & C	25 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	26 No School or remote instruction	27 No School or remote instruction
30 K-5 COHORT B & C	1 K-12 COHORT A & C	December 2 Remote instruction for <u>all</u> students	3 K-12 COHORT B & C	4 K-5 COHORT A & C



As we welcome back our students in grades 2-12 for in-person instruction, I want to ensure you that despite what you may have been told or led to believe, our school buildings are clean, sanitary, and safe. In fact, the women and men in our Buildings and Grounds Department



should be commended for their hard work in preparing and maintaining them so well during this very challenging time. Last Friday I took the time to visit and inspect our schools and was more than pleased with the conditions in them. In fact, I was overwhelmed with joy and immensely proud of the learning environment that has been created for our students in Project Before at Cheesquake. Moreover, I was thrilled to watch our students in prek-1st grade, as well as in our self-contained classrooms, learning alongside of their remote learning classmates while their teachers

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



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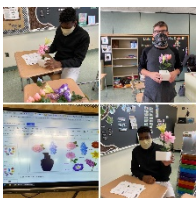
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so masterfully taught both simultaneously. It was both impressive and inspiring and once again demonstrated to me how blessed I am to work in a district with the most dedicated and highly effective educators in New Jersey.

In addition, others have reported to me their fears about our students returning to our schools for in-person learning during this recent resurgence of COVID-19 cases. While I certainly understand these concerns and why parents would decide to switch their child to fulltime remote learning, according to Governor Murphy and other experts, schools are still safe for in-person instruction. The primary reason why the Governor and many others feel that they are safe is because of the extremely low transmission rate of COVID-19 in schools compared to other public and private business and social settings. In fact, although there have been students and staff members in our district who have been infected by the virus, all but one, which is somewhat questionable, have been infected by someone outside of our school district based upon the contact tracing that we have conducted. Thus, to date there have been almost no cases in our district where in which the virus has been transmitted from someone in our schools. This is consistent with the data being reported across the nation and world, as recently a neighboring state reported that their in-school transmission rate was 0.17% compared to 2.56% overall. Furthermore, in Europe, which is also experiencing a significant resurgence of the virus, with the exception of a few countries like Italy, nearly all are quarantining and shutting down all business **except for schools**, which remain open for in-person instruction due to the low transmission rate in them. Although there are many reasons for this, many credit the staff, students, and parents for this success due to their diligence in strictly adhering to personal protective procedures.

As a result, when we expand in-person instruction for all remaining students today and tomorrow, we expect all our students and staff to continue to follow all personal protective procedures outlined in our Restart of School Plan, particularly informing the school administration immediately if students or staff have tested positive or have been determined to be in close contact (within six feet for a total of 15 minutes) with a confirmed positive individual outside of school. Students and staff are also expected to stay home from school when required to quarantine or when not feeling well and experiencing symptoms on our health screening checklist. In fact, we have created flexibility in our attendance procedures that now allow for the parents of in-person learning students to keep them home and have them attend remotely instead when they are fearful or when their child is not feeling well. However, we will require parents in such cases to report this to their child's teacher and/or the building administration at their school. Additionally, everyone in our schools is expected to maintain proper social distancing (**6-feet**) from others, wear masks at all times, and wash and/or sanitize their hands appropriately and often. Finally, we strongly encourage our staff and students to be regularly tested for COVID-19. While our staff is eligible to be tested each week at SWMHS, we recommend that parents utilize some of the community resources that are offering routine asymptomatic testing, such as Doctors Urgent Care in Sayreville and City MD Urgent Care in East Brunswick. Naturally when considering being tested, it is recommended that you consult with your primary healthcare provider. For more information on how to be tested for COVID-19 in New Jersey, click [here](#).



In other happenings in our schools this past week, Sayreville Middle School (SMS) students in Ms Duhigg's class participated in a mock flower shop vocational project. Students who participated from home remotely put arrangements together virtually while those who participated in person used hands-on or concrete materials. At the Truman School, all students participated in World Kindness Day. As part of their celebration, students had a blast attending a



Diversity Circus where they learned the strong message of inclusion and how to be to be FAIR: Fair, Aware, Include

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and Respect. In addition, this past week the incredible students and staff at Truman created and delivered cards of appreciation with gift certificates from Texas Roadhouse for Sayreville veterans in honor of Veteran's Day.



This past week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by commending and thanking the above mentioned wonderful students and staff from the Truman school, particularly the members of the Patriotic Committee, for the very thoughtful cards and generous meal donations they made this week to the veterans in our community. In addition, we commend and thank our beloved Mr. Goscienski, Social Studies Teacher at SWMHS and voice of the Sayreville



Bombers Football Team, who completed his 20th season as public announcer for football games. Finally, we would like to commend and thank the Christ Episcopal Church of South Amboy for the very generous gift cards that they donated for our neediest students in Sayreville. Later this month they will also be purchasing and donating new winter coats for Sayreville students who are in need of them. Bomber Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, last Friday evening the SWMHS Football Team defeated Linden High School (HS) to improve its record to 4-3. They will play their final game of the 2020 season this Friday against Monroe HS. The SWMHS Boys Soccer team also had a big win last week against John F. Kennedy HS to improve its record to 7-4-1. Unfortunately, they lost a hard fought game against Union HS last Saturday during the first round of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Boys Soccer Playoffs



to end their season. Although the Girls Soccer Team fell short of victory last week against Old Bridge HS, they will play New Brunswick HS this evening in the first round of the NNJSIAA Girls Soccer Playoffs. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes, continue to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community. To see this week's high school and middle school athletics schedule, click [here](#). Go Bombers!



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. To see the agenda for the meeting, click [here](#). In order to access the live streaming of the meeting click [here](#). 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 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](#).





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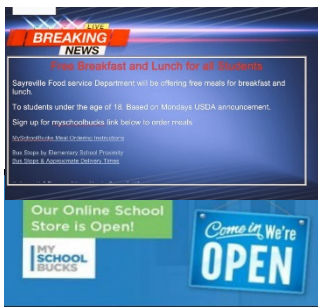
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As per our 2020-21 School District Calendar, which you can access by clicking [here](#), and the November Head of the Class Calendar, which you can see by clicking [here](#), please remember that our schools will be **closed** and there will be **no in-person** or **virtual instruction** on **November 26th and 27th** in observance of Thanksgiving. Furthermore, there will be **no office hours** on **November 25th** so that our staff members can prepare for the holiday weekend. Finally, please note that **1st Marking Period**

Report Cards for students in **grades 6-12** will be issued on **November 19th**.



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@sayrevillek12.net.

Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe