



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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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 28 Review and Preview March 23, 2020

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you are doing well and that you and your entire family are healthy and safe. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Review and Preview*. Please remember that **all our schools** will be **closed** and under **quarantine** for all students, staff, and parents **indefinitely** but at least for the next **several weeks**. In fact, based on the tone of Governor Murphy’s press conference last Saturday, it appears that our schools will be closed at least through spring break, which as you know in Sayreville will be from April 7th through April 19th. However, although I am certainly hoping for otherwise, I do not anticipate our schools reopening until May 1st, the earliest.



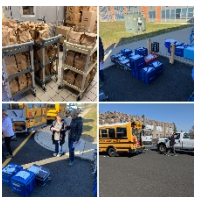
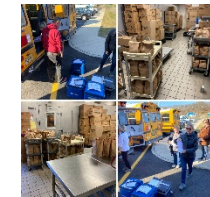
As you know, during his above-mentioned press conference on Saturday, Governor Murphy signed an executive order requiring all residents of New Jersey to quarantine and **remain home** unless something is needed that is considered “essential.” However, because the work we are doing to provide food and supplies to our community is considered “essential” by the Governor, our amazing group of **Operation BStrongSayreville** volunteers



will still be preparing and delivering breakfasts/lunches, student work packets, student educational devices, and **beginning today**, other supplies, out of Sayreville War Memorial High School. In fact, since last Wednesday, our incredible team has produced and delivered over **1,245** meals, fresh fruit and produce, many devices, and countless student work packets. As I have been doing each day and will continue to do so until this crisis is over, I will email you an update later this morning and include in it the estimated time of arrivals at all designated bus stop delivery locations. Speaking of my emails, beginning today, they will be far smaller in content size so that I



can emphasize new pertinent information and not burden you with any more unnecessarily long emails. Thus, I strongly encourage you to bookmark in your website favorites the **Pandemic Plan** page of our district website so that you can read and refer back to the content in previous emails, as well as an abundance of other pertinent information, that has been sent to you and posted since the beginning of the pandemic. To view it, click [here](#). As you will see, thanks to Dr. Aguiles, our Director of Human Resources, much of the content on the page has been translated into Spanish.



This week we will continue to provide households with educational devices and student work packets. We are hoping to finish with the first round of device allocation deliveries tomorrow or Wednesday. They will only be going to households where in which parents indicated in their **original** survey that they do not have any educational devices at home. After that, we will inventory our resources and determine whether to allocate to households with more than three preK and school-aged children living in

them who only have one device. It is our hope that with these device allocations, we can reduce, and potentially eliminate the need for student work packets, which are a far inferior means of educating our students than the virtual or online instruction that we are providing to nearly all our students currently.





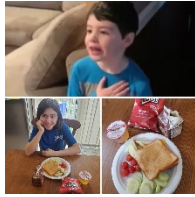
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Speaking of our continuity of learning, our administration and faculty are continuing to improve our virtual instruction tools and the way in which we deliver instruction using them. Likewise, we are also simultaneously ironing out all staff and student user wrinkles that have arisen since we began providing this new alternative form of instruction on Friday, March 13th. In fact, we are currently finalizing a list of videoconferencing tools, which can



be supported in our network that our teachers can use to conduct video conference lessons with their students. In the meantime, our teachers will continue to effectively utilize their existing online platforms, such as Oncourse and Google, to provide exceptional instruction. Furthermore, our professional development staff and administration will continue to provide all our teachers with the support they require. Likewise, we will continue



to address student and parent concerns and utilize feedback from them to assist us in refining policies and procedures, and in resolving problems. As I mentioned in my update email on Saturday, **please note that 3rd Marking Period Quarterly Assessments for students in grades 6-12 have been cancelled.** Similarly, we will **delay the issuance** (population in Oncourse) of **2nd Trimester Report Cards for students in grades K-5 until April 8th.**



In other news, last week the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) released the 2018-19 school district and individual school New Jersey Performance Reports. To see each individual school's report, as well as that of the district, click [here](#). They are also available on the NJ School Performance Reports webpage at www.njschooldata.org. They reflect the NJDOE's commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. We encourage you to use these reports to: learn more about your school and district; start conversations with school community members and ask questions; engage with school communities to identify what schools are doing well and where they can improve.

The 2018-19 reports include changes that respond to stakeholder feedback collected through a feedback survey, parent round tables and workshops, and stakeholder engagement throughout the year. These changes include:

- Emphasis on progress with new pages showing progress on student growth, proficiency, and graduation rates over the last three years
- Expanded data that allows comparisons between additional student groups (e.g. gender, homeless students, students in foster care) for student growth, chronic absenteeism, graduation rates, and career and technical education program participation
- Additional resources to help explain where the data in the reports comes from and how it's calculated
- More information including participation in computer science and information technology courses and school-level per-pupil expenditures

Along with the full [reports](#), one-page school and district Summary Reports are available. The Summary Reports provide a high-level summary of how well a school or district is performing with data that address questions such as:

- How does our students' growth compare to students' growth in other districts?
- Are students at risk?
- Are students graduating?
- How did students perform on assessments?
- Are students college and career ready?
- Do they have access to high-level coursework?



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A [Summary Report Guide](#) is also available on the aforementioned School Performance Reports webpage to explain the different data points on the Summary Reports.



This week our students, their parents, and our staff continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by congratulating SWMHS art student Nicholas Diaz, who will be featured in the March 29th Art Educators of New Jersey (AENJ) Student Artist Spotlight as a result of his "Journey Through Art" essay that he submitted, along with pictures of his artwork, with the assistance of his art teacher, Ms. LaScala. Bomber Nation salutes and thanks



Nick and all our students, their parents and our staff for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Business Meeting held on Tuesday, March 17th, here is what you missed. Since there were no presentations made during this meeting, the Board immediately moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved all of them. To see the Agenda click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum click [here](#). Finally, to see the video of the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board approved the Proposed Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$99,158,695, including a local tax levy \$64,418,968. Similarly, it approved the Proposed Tentative Budget for the 2020-2021 special revenue fund (food services) of \$9,241,928.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the 2020 Sayreville Credit Completion Summer School Program at the Middle School from July 6, 2020 through August 13, 2020. Classes will run Monday through Thursday from 7:50 am to 1:00 pm. Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the BOE approved the Sayreville Public Schools Pandemic Plan, which includes the Health Related School Closing Preparedness Plan. It also accepted the resignation of Kevin Ciak as a Board of Education Member effective March 15, 2020, and authorized the district to advertise the vacancy left by his resignation in the Home News Tribune. Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education approved motions to hire new certificated and non-certificated staff, and to transfer a non-certificated staff member for the 2019-20 school year.

During the open BOE discussion portion of the meeting, Several BOE members praised and thanked Mr. Ciak for his unrivaled commitment and dedication to the students in Sayreville, as well as in New Jersey and across the United States for the past 25 years. Likewise, Mrs. Bloom reviewed news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 7th at 7:30 pm**. Since we will probably still be living under quarantine then and thus not be permitted to leave our homes for anything that is not considered "essential," we will more than likely hold this meeting virtually. Currently our district is working on a viable solution for streaming the meeting live, which could include a virtual meeting platform, such as WebEx. More information will be forthcoming. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, it will be posted in the evening on our website on Friday, April 3rd. In addition, a complete copy of the **March 17th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **April 7, 2020**.



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Have a good day and week, and **please stay home**. May God bless you and your family and keep you healthy and safe.

Dr. Labbe