

Springfield Public Schools

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November 16, 2020

Dear Springfield Public Schools Community:

We hope you had a restful weekend! This is a letter to share updates regarding the district schedule and changes to the district technology acceptable use policy.

First, at the Board of Education meeting held on Monday, November 2, 2020, we presented some shifts to the school hybrid and virtual schedules during the holiday months.

- For grades K-8: To support virtual parent-teacher conference schedules, Walton, Caldwell, Sandmeier, and FMG Middle School will be virtual-only on November 23 and 24, 2020. Both days will be early dismissal schedules for students. Information about parent-teacher conferences will come from the building principals.
- For grades 9-12: JDHS “Cohort A” students will have an in-person hybrid program on November 23 and 24, 2020.
- For all schools, PK-12, Wednesday, November 25, 2020, will remain a virtual, early dismissal day for students and staff.
- Due to concerns related to COVID-19, travel, and possible quarantine requirements during the Winter Break, all schools will operate on a virtual-only schedule on the following days:
 - December 21 and 22, 2020 will be full days, virtual-only for all students.
 - December 23, 2020, is an early dismissal day for students and staff.
 - Schools are closed for Winter Break beginning December 24, 2020, through January 1, 2021.
 - Schools will reopen in a virtual-only schedule beginning Monday, January 4 through Friday, January 8, 2021.

Second, the Board of Education approved a revision to two critical policies, district Use of Technology (No. 2360) and the Acceptable Use of Computer Network/Computers and Resources (No. 2361). Families are asked to review these changes and complete a single-question survey on the OnCourse Connect Parent Portal. These changes allow the district to expand technology resources for our students, including the use of the Google Suite.

Finally, we are closely monitoring the information provided by the New Jersey Department of Health, and we will continue to be in contact with our local health officials. As a reminder, the health of our staff, students, and our community at large remains our priority. Please continue to follow the guidance of our public health officials: wear your mask, wash your hands, maintain social distance, and whenever possible, avoid indoor gatherings where masks or social distancing is not likely. While it is our sincere hope to maintain opportunities for in-person learning, we are acknowledging that may change based on local and state guidance. While we don't have the ability to forecast those changes, we remain very thankful for your ongoing patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Springfield Public Schools