

CHPS Postcard

First Week Wrap-up and Moving Forward 09/11/20

Minute with Dr Meloche 9 11 20



Minute with Dr. Meloche Addresses Teacher Masks and Other Updates

Today's Minute with Dr. Meloche, posted above with closed captioning available, addresses updates since the first day of school, including the new protocol for that allows teachers to remove their masks if alone in their classroom.

Technology Issues Addressed

Our first week of school brought its share of challenges and triumphs. Like any new school year, there are “bugs” to be worked out and routines to be refined. WE thank our students, parents, teachers, staff and administrators for their commitment to making this year a successful one. In case you missed the email sent on September 9, 2020 to all parents from Dr. Meloche, superintendent of schools, and Dr. Mahan, director of curriculum, we share it here:

As we navigate day 2 of remote learning, we recognize the technology challenges many of you have faced yesterday and today. The emails and frequent updates documenting technology issues regarding outages, dropped connections, and lagging calls are appreciated and have helped us to troubleshoot.

The Technology Team has been working diligently to review and resolve concerns across complex systems inside and out of Cherry Hill. Even with the herculean effort to ensure we were prepared for the opening of school, we are still having challenges.

We are confident that in the majority of cases it is not our bandwidth or availability of WiFi access. I can assure you that many of the issues above are not unique to CHPS. We have reached out to many local districts who are experiencing similar issues.

We recognize that CHPS must continue to provide a strong technology infrastructure which we are all accustomed with an emphasis on teaching and learning! We expect to provide those we serve with a sound technology experience both in-district and at home.

We thank you for your patience as we navigate these issues.

Please note: CHPS’s Technology Help Desk is available for students and parents from 7 am to 5 pm each day via email to studentsupport@chclc.org

Moving Forward to Implement the Hybrid Learning Model – Teaching

While delivering all-remote instruction during these first nine weeks of the school year, our administrators, teachers and staff are working each day toward the implementation of our hybrid learning model (part in-person learning in our school buildings and part remote learning) on November 9, 2020. To that end:

Teachers are teaching from their classrooms to help them prepare, hands-on, for the implementation of the hybrid learning model, which will include teaching students in person while simultaneously teaching students who are learning remotely.

Teachers wore masks while teaching this week to comply with Executive Order No. 175 from Gov. Murphy, released on August 13, 2020. We received word on Friday afternoon, September 11, from the County Department of Health that **teachers may remove their masks when they are teaching alone in a classroom**. This new protocol will begin on Monday.

Moving Forward to Implement the Hybrid Learning Model – Buildings

Our custodians and buildings and grounds staff worked tirelessly all summer to ensure that our schools were ready to open for the start of school. The buildings are continually cleaned and maintained to be at the ready for our students' return:

Classrooms are arranged to maximize social distancing when students return to school. High touch areas are wiped down throughout the day.

Buildings are disinfected nightly using electrostatic sprayers. Each custodian has been given a sprayer and has been trained to use it correctly.

[The Cherry Hill School District's Indoor Air Quality Plan](#) complies with the Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) Program, Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Standard (N.J.A.C. 12:100-13) (2007). Our Written Indoor Air Quality Program applies to all 19 of our school buildings. All of our classrooms meet or exceed all state requirements, including:

- Schools and districts must allow for social distancing within the classroom to the maximum extent practicable. This can be achieved by ensuring students are seated at least 6 feet apart and considering the flow of student traffic around the room.
- If schools are not able to maintain this physical distance, additional modifications should be in place. These include using physical barriers between desks and turning desks to face the same direction (rather than facing each other) or having students sit on only one side of the table, spaced apart. The District's Building and Grounds staff have worked diligently since the closure of our buildings to evaluate, clean and maintain the District's HVAC systems, and replace all manufacturer recommended filters on a consistent basis. All classrooms that do not have windows, have been evaluated to confirm fresh air exchange through a rooftop HVAC.

Distribution of Free Meals for All Cherry Hill Students Extended

The USDA has extended the District's ability to distribute FREE MEALS TO ALL CHERRY HILL STUDENTS through December 31, 2020 "or until the funds run out." Distribution continues on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-6 pm at East and West. Please note that the distribution schedule may be adjusted the week of September 28 due to the holiday.

Because this distribution will end by December 31, families are encouraged to apply now for Free and Reduced Price Meals for the 2020-2021 school year. A letter of explanation in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#) is available to interested families.

For the fastest response, we strongly encourage families to [apply online](#).

Families may print copies of the application in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Paper applications also are available at the Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace.