

Moonachie Public Schools

ROBERT L. CRAIG SCHOOL
20 WEST PARK STREET
MOONACHIE, NEW JERSEY 07074

JAMES KNIPPER
Superintendent/Principal
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OFFICE: (201) 641-5833 ext. 110
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November 4, 2020

Moonachie Families & Friends:

The Robert L. Craig School takes each positive case of COVID-19 with the upmost concern. With COVID-19 positive cases steadily increasing in New Jersey, in Bergen County, and in the Borough of Moonachie, data points are changing from what we experienced in August and September. As a result, we have been analyzing the data and making adjustments to our programming as we learn more about the virus, its spread, and with updated guidance from local health officials. Today's pandemic climate is much different than that of the Summer and September. We must adjust our approach accordingly.

The Bergen County Department of Health are the local officials who provide recommendations on quarantining and closure. With each recommendation, it is clear that they are committed to preventing the spread of each positive COVID-19 test through closures and quarantines. We must report to the Bergen County Department of Health all contacts of a positive case (any person in the same room as the positive test, regardless of proximity) for the 48-hours prior to the onset of symptoms.

All cases identified by Nurse Gallo and myself have been contact traced to *weekend* exposure. All cases experienced symptoms on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning, thus excluding them from school on Wednesday. Based on what we know about this virus, each individual would have been asymptomatic on Monday and Tuesday, while the virus incubated. So far, our policies and procedures to reduce the possibility of spread within the building have proven successful. Social distancing, masks, windows, sanitation, not mixing of cohorts, etc... have prevented any other individual in our building from contracting COVID-19 during these asymptomatic days.

With the holiday's approaching and indoor activities increasing, we have devised a plan for November and December to help lower the risk of weekend community spread impacting the Robert L. Craig School.

Our hope with this plan is to identify possible COVID-19 cases following the asymptomatic period, of 2-4 days. This lowers possible exposure of the virus to our school community. But like any plan with this virus, it is not fool-proof. But we feel it is our next logical step forward in response to our data points.

Starting November 16th, we will move into Mondays and Tuesdays being FULL REMOTE Learning for All Students. We will follow our FULL-Day schedule: 8:55am-3:05pm.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays we will be open for full-day LIVE instruction, with all health and safety protocols unchanged. Our plan for Recess and Lunch will remain unchanged.

MYMEDBOT will remain ACTIVE on Mondays and Tuesdays. We ask that all LIVE families continue to fill out MYMEDBOT on Remote Days. This will allow us continue to track symptoms and possible infections prior to re-opening on Wednesdays.

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We will follow the Calendar Below for November and December.

November				
2 REMOTE	3 REMOTE	4 REMOTE	5 NO SCHOOL	6 NO SCHOOL
9 REMOTE	10 REMOTE	11 LIVE (1PM DISMISSAL)	12 LIVE (1PM DISMISSAL)	13 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)
16 REMOTE	17 REMOTE	18 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	19 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	20 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)
23 REMOTE	24 REMOTE	25 REMOTE (1PM DISMISSAL)	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL
30 REMOTE				
December				
	1 REMOTE	2 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	3 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	4 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)
7 REMOTE	8 REMOTE	9 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	10 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	11 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)
14 REMOTE	15 REMOTE	16 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	17 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)	18 LIVE (3PM DISMISSAL)
21 REMOTE	22 REMOTE	23 REMOTE	24 NO SCHOOL	25 NO SCHOOL
28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL	31 NO SCHOOL	

We understand this is different than what we presented in the summer. We understand the stress this may place on families to find coverage for your children, but it is our next logical step in keeping everyone as safe as possible, while maintaining the integrity and continuity of teaching and learning for each child.

Please remember to continue to remain vigilant of all symptoms. Please keep your child home if they are sick. Please communicate with us of any travel plans that take you outside of NJ, NY, CT, or PA. Please begin to have conversations with your families in regards to holiday gatherings. We wish nothing but good health and safety for all.

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Your individual teacher will be sharing schedules, log-in times, and additional information for specific classes shortly.

In the beginning of December, our team will analyze our data points again and make an informed decision for LIVE programming in January and February. We will communicate this decision with as much advance notice as possible for families to plan. Should we need to alter our plan based on new data at any point, we will communicate it as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

LIVE students who currently are in possession of a school issued laptop or iPad will keep them during November and December.

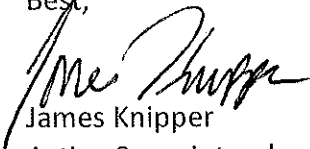
Finally, I will be having 'Office Hours' each week, virtually, to answer any questions or concerns you may have. These will start immediately. These will be standing times each week. Please join to ask individual questions about your child's schooling, pandemic response, this schedule, or anything else you wish to express to myself, Ms. Genatt, Ms. Raguseo, or Nurse Gallo. Translation will be available.

- Mondays – 9:30am→10:15am
- Tuesdays – 2:15pm→3:00pm
- Thursdays – 3:15pm→4:00pm

Here is the Standing Office Hours Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/qjw-yutg-ijr>

Again, thank you for your continued flexibility and understanding. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. jknipper@moonachieschool.org or (201) 641-5833.

Best,



James Knipper
Acting Superintendent/Principal
Moonachie School District