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 FAX: (201) 641-3723

Monday October 19, 2020

Moonachie Families & Friends:

On behalf of the teachers and staff of our great school, we are so very excited to be back and able to serve each family through their prefered method of learning: Live and Remote, simultaneously. While it is not perfect, we are doing our very best to keep everyone safe and healthy. We thank you for your continued understanding, flexibility, and most importantly, your grace and kindness towards one another.

In line with other districts and with the CDC guidelines and measures taken to avoid the spread of COVID-19, we will continue to move into Full-Session Days beginning November 2nd for ALL grade levels.

Please read carefully and ASK if you have any questions or require clarifications.

In Regard to Lunch

Lunch will take place in the student classrooms. If your student is receiving school lunch, it will be delivered to the classroom, however, we encourage you to pack a lunch, if possible. All student desks will be wiped down, by our custodians with CDC recommended products, following eating. All students will sanitize their hands before and after eating.

Lunch/Recess will take place during two-separate time blocks. 11:00-11:45 and 11:45-12:30. Your individual teacher will communicate your designated lunch period.

In Regard to Recess

Recess will be 20-minutes in length. Social distancing will be required. We have designated areas of the yard for each classroom cohort, if outdoor recess. Classroom Cohorts will not mix. Masks are permitted to be removed when outside, while social distancing is maintained. Classes will rotate from having recess on the grass some days, and black top other days. Your teacher will let you know of the schedule so you can send your student with the appropriate items. The Playground Equipment will NOT be available. All students will sanitize following recess.

We are encouraging families to send in a small toy or item in your child's backpack that they can play with during recess. Here are guidelines:

- Fits in zip lock bag (will remain in your students backpack before and after recess)
- Easily sanitized when the child gets home.

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- NOT electronic (phones, tablets, Headphones will not be allowed)
- Inexpensive
- Something your student will enjoy playing with.

Suggested items for INDOOR Recess:

- Coloring Books/Crayons
- Stickers / Paper
- Stampers / Paper
- Barbie or Action Figure
- Deck of Cards
- Books to Read
- Legos or building blocks
- Printouts of puzzles (cross words, word search, mazes)
- Stencils / Paper
- Flash Cards
- Playdough
- Tracing Pad
- Students can also use this time to complete work they may be missing or behind on.

Suggested items for OUTDOOR Recess:

- Jump Ropes
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Small Toys they like to play with that are durable to withstand being dropped outside
- Individual Beach Towels to sit on, socially distanced, for socializing

We encourage our Recess Aides to organize games that remain socially distant when outside, for example:

- Red Light Green Light
- Simon Says (indoor or outdoor)
- Races
- Charades (indoor or outdoor)
- I Spy (indoor or outdoor)
- Dancing (indoor or outdoor)
- Hopscotch

If it is NOT raining and is above 38 degrees Fahrenheit, we will be outside, so send in jackets and sweaters, accordingly. Sometimes, we must make a game-time-decision on recess based on new

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weather conditions. When this occurs, we will do our best to engage the children based on the item you sent to school.

In Regard to PREK

PreK will include 1-hour of rest time. PreK students will have lunch and rest time between 11:40-1:00. Rest Mats will be assigned, socially distanced, and sanitized.

In Regard to Breakfast

If you receive breakfast from the school, it will still be sent home with your child each afternoon (for the next day). We ask that your student eats breakfast at home, before coming to school. There will NOT be a designated time for Breakfast eating at school.

In Regard to Remote Learners Returning to LIVE Instruction for Marking Period 2

As shared over the summer, we will begin our Second Marking Period on November 9th. If you wish to switch to LIVE instruction, we ask that your student starts on November 2nd. ALL Remote Families will receive a phone call on Thursday 10/22, asking for your decision to either return to LIVE instruction on November 2nd, OR to remain REMOTE through the end of the 2nd Marking Period (January 28th).

In Regard to Full-Day Dismissal

We will continue our staggered dismissal Car Line. Please review updated times, that will begin on November 2nd for CAR pick-up:

- Grades PK → 2nd grade: 2:40-2:50pm

- Grades $3 \rightarrow 5$ th grade: 2:50-3:00pm

- Grades $6 \rightarrow 8$ th grade: 3:00-3:05pm

Walkers and YMCA students will be released at 3:05pm

Busses will depart the school at approximately 3:15pm each day. We will have updated bus assignments and assigned seats once we determine how many additional REMOTE students will be coming LIVE.

In Regard to YMCA

Beginning November 2, the YMCA After School Program, for grades 3-8, will be operating from their normal 3:05pm - 6:00pm schedule. Please contact Mr. Facendola with any questions.

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In Regard to Remote Learning Expectations

Remote Learners will receive, from your teachers, an updated schedule of times for each subject. Remote Learners will continue to Live Stream into all classes Via Google Meets. Work will continue to be completed via Google Classroom and/or SeeSaw. Teachers will provide individualized support and feedback during the class period. Remote students will follow the same lunch/recess time that their class follows in school.

In Regard to Other COVID-19 Prevention Procedures

All COVID-19 prevention measures (masks, social distancing, sanitizing, MyMedBot, Temperature Screening, etc...) remain unchanged.

Other Reminders & Updates

In Regard to Travel

Please stay updated on the Governor's travel restriction list. We advise to remain vigilant and avoid unnecessary travel. However, should your student travel to a state or territory listed on the Governor's travel restriction list, your student must quarantine for 14-days following their return. Your student would be required to engage in Remote Learning during this 14-day quarantine. Please inform Mr. Knipper or Nurse Gallo if you plan to travel to any of the locations listed. The list is updated each TUESDAY and can be located here:

 $\frac{https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-and-transportation/which-states-are-on-the-travel-advisory-list-are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey$

Calendar Reminders

November 3rd - Election Day - Full Remote Learning Day (no in-person instruction)

November 5th and 6th - Teacher Convention - SCHOOL CLOSED

November 11th (afternoon and evening sessions) and 12th (afternoon sessions) - Parent Teacher Conferences - 1-Session Days

- ALL Conferences will be VIRTUAL! Individual Teachers will schedule time slots and provide the Google Meets Link.

November 25th - 1-Session Day

November 26th and 27th - SCHOOL CLOSED in Observance of Thanksgiving

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I know this is a lot of information. Please join us on Wednesday October 21st for the PTO meeting at 6:30pm, followed by a brief presentation and Town Hall (Q&A) format session with administration and Nurse Gallo, in regards to full-day programming.

Link: meet.google.com/bms-icgf-hcf

Call In: +1 669-220-6222 PIN: 742 958 645#

As always, please e-mail <u>jknipper@moonachieschool.org</u> or call 201-641-5833 with any questions or concerns.

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ames Knipper

Superintendent/Principal

Dana Genatt

Director of Curriculum & Instruction