



PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHERE EDUCATION IS MET WITH EXCELLENCE!

Lori Cannetti

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Theresa DeLeva, District Clerk

Dear Patchogue-Medford Community,

As we prepare for another exciting academic year, I want to inform you about two significant pieces of legislation that New York State has enacted, requiring all school districts to establish comprehensive written board policies. The first policy addresses the use of internet-enabled devices, about which you have already received detailed information. The second policy, which I'm writing to discuss today, focuses on extreme heat conditions during the school day.

At our August 4, 2025, Board of Education meeting, our district officially adopted the Extreme Heat Condition Days Policy. You can access the complete policy using the link provided below or by visiting our district website. [\(3529- Extreme Heat Condition Days\)](#)

The health and safety of our students and staff remain our highest priority. We recognize that during the first few weeks of school, classroom temperatures may reach 82 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. To address this challenge, I have been working closely with our administrative team to develop a comprehensive action plan designed to minimize heat-related discomfort and maintain a conducive learning environment. Temperature measurements will be taken at shaded locations, three feet above floor level, near the center of each classroom, to ensure accurate and consistent readings. This is in direct accordance with the protocols prescribed by the Governor's law.

We are committed to taking every necessary step to avoid school closures or early dismissals due to extreme heat conditions. Our facilities staff, administrators, and teachers are working together to implement proactive measures that will help us maintain normal school operations whenever possible. It is recommended that students be sent to school wearing light colored clothing, with water bottles, etc.

However, we believe in keeping our community informed and prepared. There may be circumstances where the district needs to implement either:

- Early dismissal due to unsafe heat conditions
- Remote learning day to ensure educational continuity

While we are dedicated to avoiding disruptions, families must have an emergency plan in place should the district need to pivot quickly to early dismissal or remote learning. Our Remote Learning Plan is posted on the district website and outlines procedures.

Before the start of the school year, please:

1. Review our Extreme Heat Condition Days Board of Education Policy

2. Review our Remote Learning Plan ([Full Remote Schedules](#))
3. Develop your family's emergency plan for potential early dismissal scenarios to ensure your student's safe arrival home.
4. Ensure emergency contact information is current with your child's school

Should you have any questions about our Extreme Heat Policy or Remote Learning Plan, please don't hesitate to contact your child's school or the district office.

Thank you for your partnership as we begin this new school year together.

Warm regards,

Lori Cannetti
Interim Superintendent of Schools