

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

William J. McGinn School
1100 Roosevelt Avenue
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076
www.spfk12.org/mcginn

3/11/21

Dear McGinn Families,

A year has passed since our district moved to virtual instruction from our homes. After many interim steps, we are very excited to welcome back students for five single session days of in-person instruction starting on Monday, March 15th! We are thrilled to continue our work with our virtual students and to connect and engage our two groups! We will no longer be following the hybrid Cohort calendar at this time.

This communication focuses on key reminders and additional information as we prepare for this next transition:

Schedule:

- Grades K-4 morning session is from 8:25 (arrival) - 12:40 PM. An all virtual afternoon session is from 2:00 - 3:00 PM.
- **Announcements - For 3/15 and 3/16 only**, announcements will take place at the end of the day at **12:35 PM**. All other days, announcements can be viewed at **8:35** on this [livestream link](#).
- Families with children in specialized programs have been notified of their schedules separately.
- **April 5th - 9th - All instruction will be virtual** to allow quarantine time following Spring break.
- **April 19th for a return date of April 26th** - This is the next opportunity to let us know you would like your child to attend in-person and the start date for those students.
- You may change from in-person to virtual instruction at any time.

Safety Protocols:

- If possible, 6' feet of distance will be maintained in classrooms. **Please note - in some rooms 6' of social distancing is not possible**. Desk shields will be provided for all rooms.
- All other safety measures will remain in effect, including mask wearing, [daily health screening](#), frequent hand washing, and careful entrance and exit procedures.
- To the extent possible, short **snack and mask breaks** will be taken outside. In the event students eat indoors, they will take turns in the classroom. Snack time will be brief. Please pack an easy to open snack that is **peanut and tree nut free (walnuts, almonds, pistachio, hazelnut, nutella etc)**.
- We will continue to inform the school community of any positive cases of COVID-19.

Attendance:

- **Students who choose the in-person option are expected to be in school every day.**
- **Each morning by 7:30 AM** - Accurately complete the [Daily Symptom Screening](#) in Powerschool. ***Reminder:** You are able to complete the screening on your phone, however, it works through a browser on the Powerschool website, not on the phone app.



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- Student's Absence - Please call the attendance line or email nsave@spf12.org to notify the school of your child's absence and the reason.
- Students who have elected to attend in-person instruction may log on virtually **IF**:
 - Student is in quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19
 - Student is generally feeling well but has been ordered by their health care provider to recuperate at home after a contagious illness or medical/surgical procedure
- *Any other requests to attend virtually must be approved by the principal starting with completion of this form: [Virtual Attendance Form](#).*

Arrival:

- All parents/guardians, students and staff must wear masks on McGinn property and maintain social distance. Please be sure to communicate this to any caregivers that are dropping off or picking up your child.
- When you arrive at school with your students, please go directly to your child's entrance door:
 - Kindergarten (Mrs. George, Ms. Cecchini, Mrs. DiAndrea) - Door #20
 - Kindergarten (Mrs. Toriello, Ms. Fuerst) - Door # 15
 - First Grade - Door #9
 - Second Grade (Mrs. Swartz, Ms. Hernandez, Mrs. Lusk) - Door #9
 - Second Grade (Mrs. Pincus, Mrs. Derkack) - Door #13
 - Third Grade - Door #13
 - Fourth Grade - Door #5
- **Drop-Off** - Drop off is available *for 4th grade students only at this time*. Students must be able to exit the car independently and walk to Door #5. Staff will be located at entrances.
- Students stand on the white dots, grass or blacktop to spread out safely. Parents/guardians stay near their child off the paths.
- Staff will stop students who have not filled out their screening. All other students will enter with safe distancing.

Dismissal:

- At Dismissal, your child's teacher will walk the students out to designated spots outlined in previous communications. See [Hybrid Reminders 10-24-20](#) for Grades K-1; See [Hybrid Letter 1-7-21](#), or [Door #5](#), [Door #6](#), [Door #9](#), [Door #10](#), [Door #13](#) for Grades 2-4.
- **Please stand *OFF* the paths when picking up your child. Please walk on the grass and blacktop to walk around the building and avoid paths and spaces where teachers are dismissing their students.**
- Wait until your child's teacher dismisses your child to take them from the dismissal line.

Specials

- Students will travel to specials classes.
- Students will have assigned seats with desk shields.

Materials

- Teachers will share with you the materials needed in school and at home.



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- Masks - Please provide at least one extra mask for your child.
- Water bottles - Please have your child bring a filled water bottle to school.

Restrictions on School Grounds

- People are not permitted on the grounds during the school day. Students and staff will be taking mask and snack breaks outside when possible.
- Playsets are closed before and after school.

Throughout this unpredictable year, you have been unwavering in your support for our staff and students. Thank you for your partnership once again as we move forward.

Sincerely,



Sasha Slocum
Principal

