

April 26, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Staff,

Per the most recent CDC guidelines, effective Monday, May 3, 2021, our district will be moving from the 2 day cohort model to a 4 day learning model (no cohorts) for our preschool, kindergarten and elementary students. **This change will impact our current in-person General Education classes only**, as our Special Education self-contained already use a different in-person schedule. Please note that due to Bergen County's current COVID-19 levels and the CDC's updated guidelines pertaining to desk placement ([CDC Physical Distancing Guidelines](#)), we will continue with the cohort model for our middle and high schools while we monitor and evaluate their possible return to a four day schedule.

As we work towards combining cohorts in order to provide our pre-k through grade 4 children with more in-person class time, please note the following:

- 1.) We will continue to follow the half day release schedule
- 2.) Wednesdays will continue to be all virtual days
- 3.) **Children who are participating in all virtual classes will not be impacted by this change.**
- 4.) If a child receives bus transportation, there will be no change to the bus schedule; however the parent/guardian may be contacted with a new seat assignment.

Additionally, as we prepare for a four day return of our students (through the end of this school year), please be advised that we are working towards collecting information on staff vaccinations; and we want our families to know that effective immediately, all students 16 and older are now eligible to receive a vaccination. While not mandatory, cases are rising and Holy Name Medical Center here in Teaneck will administer the Pfizer vaccine to all eligible children.

If you are a parent/guardian of a preschool, kindergarten or elementary school child, you will receive more information on the new four day approach from your principal. I will also discuss this in greater detail at our April 28 Board meeting which begins at 8 pm (see the website for log-in information).

I'm looking forward to seeing many of our students back in school for an extended period of time. This will serve as a model for how we will look towards bringing all of our students back to school in September.

Sincerely,

Dr. Christopher Irving, Superintendent of Schools