



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my great hope that everyone is enjoying the summer and getting some rest and relaxation. Since June, our construction project at County Road School has been underway and completion is anticipated at the end of this school year. In addition, many other facility upgrades are taking place in the district such as new windows, doors, and new front steps at Demarest Middle School.

As we know last year we endured a school year of uncertainty, and this year we will experience challenges as well. However, we are much more prepared for this having gone through the 20/21 school year. The administration and I are optimistic that we will open in September without less restrictions in place last school year.

As a New Jersey school district, we receive guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the New Jersey Department of Health and the Bergen County Department of Health In Bergen County, there are 11 different local health departments; Demarest is part of the Bergen County Department of Health (BCDOH). We report, receive, and follow the guidance/recommendations/mandates of the BCDOH. Therefore, we will continue to adhere to all medical-related guidance from them in the new school year.

Our expectation will continue to be that health officials make decisions based on medical research as opposed to leaving it to the discretion of individual districts. We are bound by the mandates set forth and will follow those orders. It is with great hope that all of the health departments in the county will meet and create one recommendation for all of the districts to follow.

Here are some protocol highlights for this year as compared to last year. Please note that per the evolving guidelines, any and all plans outlined herein are subject to change based on local rates of transmission, local, state, and federal mandates.

## I. DAILY OPERATIONS

	2020-2021 School Year	2021-2022 School Year
Masks	Yes	Yes the school year will begin with all students and staff per recent executive order by the Governor.
Social Distancing	6 feet	3 feet
100% virtual options	Yes	No
Field Trips	No	Yes
Full day instruction until 3:05 pm	8:20 am to 2:20 pm	8:20 am to 3:05 pm
Back to School Night	Virtual	Virtual
Parent-Teacher Conferences	Virtual	Depends on level of transmission
Lockers 5 - 8	No	Yes
Lunches	No	Yes, each grade has separate lunch <input type="checkbox"/>
Increased hand washing/sanitizer	Yes	Yes
Increased sanitation of the buildings/equipment	Yes	Yes
Contact Tracing/Quarantine	Yes	Yes, quarantine is set by our local Board of Health and depends on vaccination status and transmission rates in the area, see below the chart below
Daily Screening form	Yes	Yes form was modified
Middle School Sports	No	Yes
Desk Shields	Yes	No, but available upon request
Nurses configuration/isolation room	Yes	Yes
Emphasis on ventilation/ air purification	Yes	Yes, in addition to filtration we have installed ionization hardware throughout the district
Changing classes	No	Yes, grades 4 - 8

## II. QUARANTINE INFORMATION FOR CLOSE CONTACT EXPOSURE

COVID 19 Activity Level Report	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	VERY HIGH
<b>Fully vaccinated students and staff</b>	No quarantine required	No quarantine required. Testing recommended	No quarantine required. Testing recommended	No quarantine required. Testing recommended
<b>Unvaccinated students and staff</b>	10 days from exposure with no symptoms, or 7 days with a negative test collected at 5 - 7 days.	10 days from exposure with no symptoms, or 7 days with a negative test collected at 5 - 7 days.	14 days	14 days

## QUARANTINE INFORMATION FOR TRAVEL

<b>FULLY VACCINATED Students and Staff</b>	<b>DOMESTIC</b> Testing recommended but not required. No quarantine	<b>INTERNATIONAL</b> Testing recommended day 3 - 5. No quarantine
<b>UNVACCINATED Students and Staff</b>	<b>DOMESTIC</b> Test required on day 3 - 5. Quarantine 7 days; or 10 days with no test.	<b>INTERNATIONAL</b> Testing required on day 3-5. Quarantine 7 days; or 10 days with no test.

## III. VIRTUAL LEARNING DUE TO MANDATORY QUARANTINE

<b>Positive Covid</b>	Eligible for virtual learning while quarantined.
<b>Close Contact of Positive Case</b>	Eligible for virtual learning while quarantined.
<b>Quarantine after travel</b>	Eligible for virtual learning while quarantined.

### Resources:

[Governor Murphy Mask Announcement](#)

[Executive Order 251](#)

[The Road Forward](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine - CDC](#)

[NJDOH Vaccine Information](#)

[CDC- Close Contact Definition/Exception](#)

Previous generations have had to deal with challenges that impacted society in profound ways. Covid-19 is a major challenge of our lifetime and while it might present with unique circumstances, we will use this event as a catalyst to come together as a community to support one another and ensure that we provide students with the necessary tools to meet this and future challenges. When educators and parents work together, we provide a powerful model for this generation to understand how to remain positive and problem solve for the greater good.

Thank you to all students, staff, and parents for your continued support, flexibility, and patience.

Please know we will continue to communicate with all stakeholders and will make the 2021-2022 school year a success for all that are a part of the Demarest Public Schools.

Sincerely,  
Michael Fox  
Superintendent