

# Board of Education Meeting March 8, 2021



## FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 8, 2021

[Click here to view all public attachments for this meeting.](#)

**VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:30 P.M.**

**VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 P.M.**

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

<https://frsd.zoom.us/j/84694073528>

**Passcode: 362814**

**Or iPhone one-tap :**

**US: +13126266799,,84694073528#,,,,\*362814# or +19292056099,,84694073528#,,,,\*362814#**

**Or Telephone:**

**Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):**

**US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782**

**Webinar ID: 846 9407 3528**

**Passcode: 362814**

**International numbers available: <https://frsd.zoom.us/j/84694073528>**

- I. Call to Order by the Board President.
- II. In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending a notice of the time, date, location, instructions for remote access and making public comment and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting on December 15, 2020 and on January 20, 2021, to the Hunterdon County Democrat and The Courier-News. Copies of the notice also have been placed in the Board Office and in each of the district schools, posted on the District website and filed with Flemington Borough Clerk and the Raritan Township Clerk on December 15, 2020 and on January 20, 2021.

# Board of Education Members- Roll Call

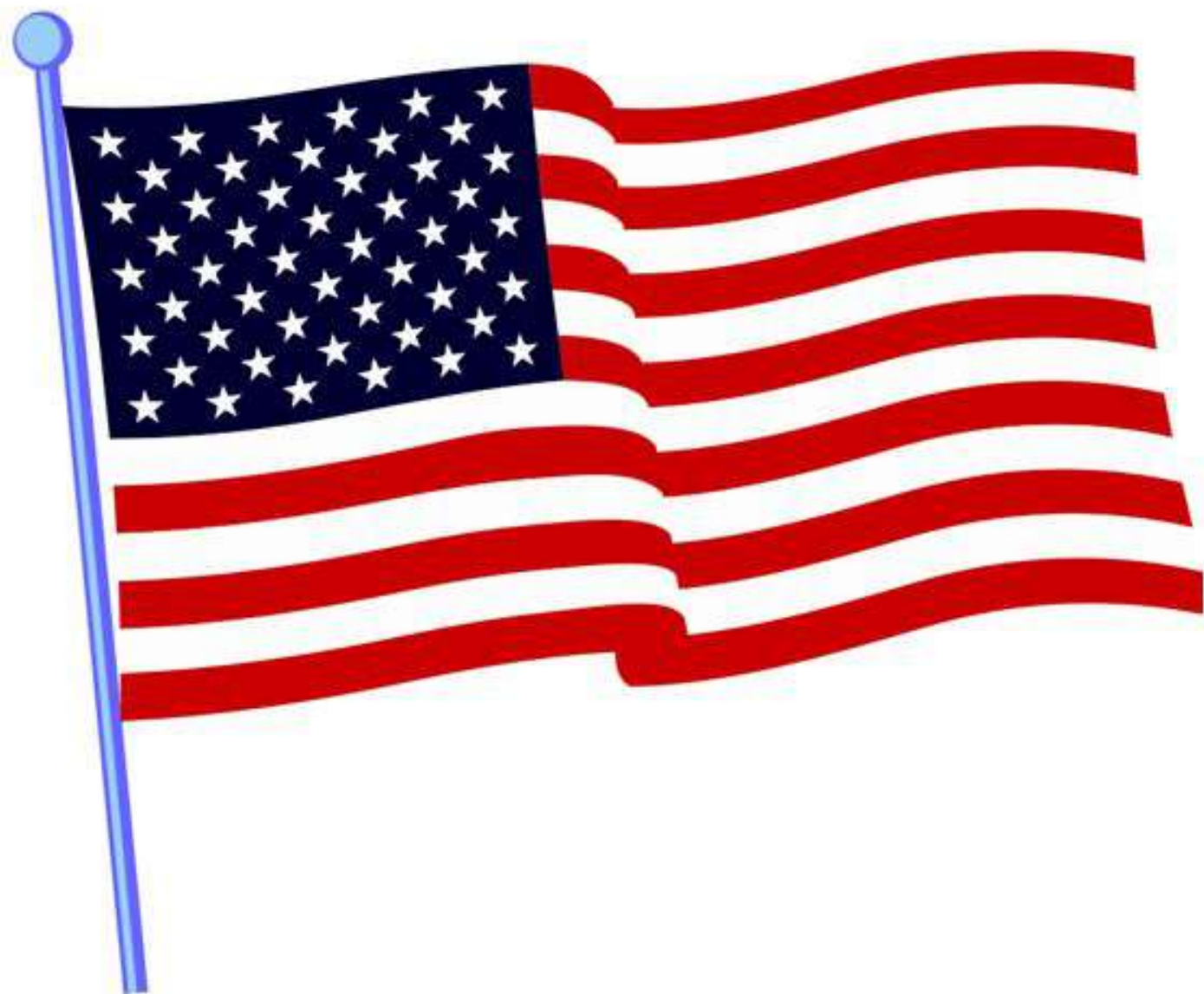


## Raritan Township

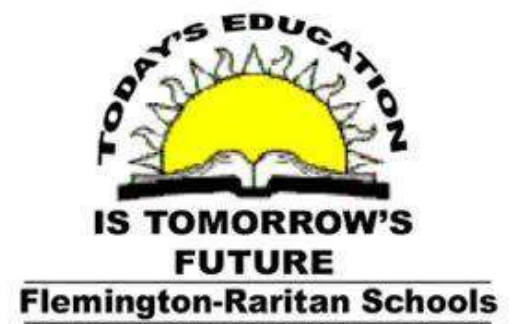
- Tim Bart, President
- Pamela Baker
- Valerie Bart
- Dr. Marianne Kenny
- Laurie Markowski
- Susan Mitcheltree
- Melanie Rosengarden

## Flemington-Borough

- Jessica Abbott, Vice President
- Jeff Cain



# **District Mission Statement**



The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District values children. Together, **WE:**

- **Foster** social, emotional, and academic growth in a safe and nurturing environment;
- **Respect** values and traditions within our families and schools;
- **Strive** to respond to the needs of our diverse and changing communities;
- **Develop** the curiosity and creativity of critical thinkers to become collaborative problem solvers who meet the challenges of a globally competitive society.

***Every student, every day, at every opportunity.***

Reference: 2018-2023 Strategic Plan

<https://www.frsd.k12.nj.us/cms/lib/NJ01001104/Centricity/Domain/15/Flemington-Raritan%205-29-18%20final%20pres.pdf>

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# Superintendent's Report: District Enrollment

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 publicdomainvectors.org

J.P. Case Middle School:

**711** 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students

Reading-Fleming Intermediate School:

**648** 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students

Francis A. Desmares Elementary School:

**468** K-grade 4 students

Copper Hill Elementary:

**417** Pre-K-grade 4 students

Robert Hunter Elementary:

**397** K-grade 4 students

Barley Sheaf Elementary Schools:

**352** K-grade 4 students

Out of district students:

**13** Students

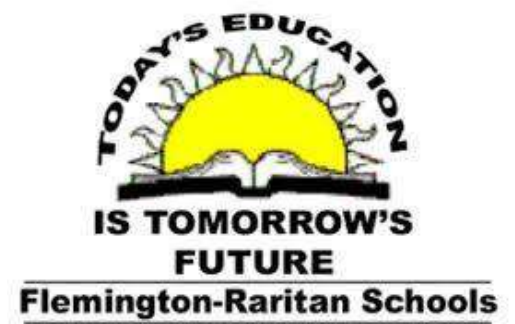
Total enrollment:

**3,006** Pre-K - 8th grade students

(Five less students than the 2/22/2021 BOE meeting)

# FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: Opening our School Doors Wider

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A quote from Dr. Elizabeth Raleigh, Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Physician:

*"I think this is very exciting news and I congratulate you and the board for trying to have more students in person! I am sure you know, more than I do, how many schools are struggling with space constraints that limit the 6 foot guidance. I would support your and the board's decision to move forward with the 3 foot distance requirement with protective barriers and all the usual protection with regards to masks and hand hygiene."*

~Dr. Elizabeth Raleigh, Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Physician



# FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT:

# Opening our School Doors Wider: Support for our Faculty & Staff with Vaccination Eligibility

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## STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 8, 2020

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, and Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

From: Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education

### Vaccine Eligibility for K-12 Educators and School Support Staff

Effective March 2, 2021, Governor Murphy has directed that all preschool and K-12 educators, including support staff, are now eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. These individuals should consult the State's [COVID-19 Information Hub](#) for more information regarding registration and vaccination locations. Please notify all personnel of their eligibility.

c: Members, State Board of Education  
NJDOE Staff  
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
NJ LEE Group



# FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT:

# Opening our School Doors Wider: Support for our Faculty & Staff with Vaccination Eligibility

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## Where, how, and when can I get vaccinated?

Last Updated: 03/08/2021

[Copy Link to Article](#) 

Currently, vaccines are available to paid and unpaid healthcare workers, residents and staff of long-term and congregate care facilities, first responders including sworn law enforcement and fire professionals, individuals over 65, individuals 16-64 with certain medical conditions that increase the risk of severe illness from the virus, Pre-K to 12 educators and staff, and childcare workers in licensed and registered settings.

[Click here for more information on who is eligible for vaccination under different phases.](#)

If you are eligible to receive a vaccine, there are multiple ways to get vaccinated:

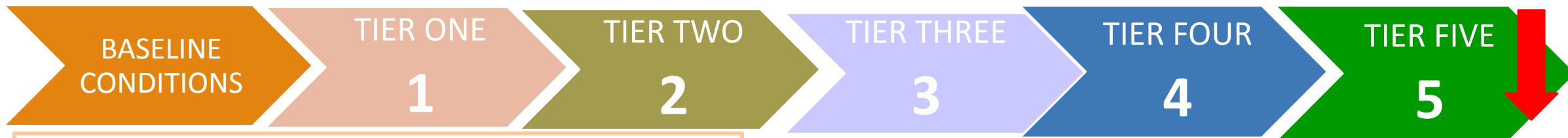
1. Register and make an appointment through the NJ Vaccine Scheduling System. [Register here.](#)
2. Make an appointment directly with a vaccination location. [View locations here.](#)
3. If you work or volunteer at a select healthcare facility, make an appointment through your place of work.
4. Veterans who receive care from VA health facilities or live in VA long-term care facilities may be eligible for vaccines through the VA. [Learn more here.](#)





# WHAT IS THE TRIGGER FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL?

REGULAR MODEL  
ALL STUDENTS &  
STAFF IN SCHOOL



**Goal:** If we continue to see the region stay in the yellow and all indications are pointing in the right direction, meaning

- case rate decreasing,
- percent positivity rates decreasing,
- hospital rates decreasing for the number of COVID-like illnesses, and
- our COVID score remain in the yellow...

we will open our doors wider for students.  
We set our sights for the week of March 15, 2021 for in-person learning for five days per week with an early dismissal schedule. **We will bring students back on March 22nd, 2021. We have received PPE** to mitigate risk of co-mingling and lessening of six-foot distancing.

**Regular Model:**  
All students & staff in school, full days, full in-person instruction

**Restrictions:** None

**Health & Safety:**  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations  
Quarantine protocols

**Activities:**  
All sports/athletics & clubs open



1 Low      2 Moderate      3 High      4 Very High

**January 9, 2021**

COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	55.42 ●	5.92 ○	11.58 ○	3
Northeast	55.81 ●	7.97 ○	11.28 ○	3
Central West	46.37 ●	5.68 ○	9.85 ○	3
Central East	66.41 ●	8.02 ○	12.38 ○	3
Southwest	62.22 ●	6.80 ○	13.08 ○	3
Southeast	58.10 ●	2.34 ○	14.17 ○	3
STATEWIDE				3

### COVID-19 Activity Level Report

New Jersey Department of Health  
Communicable Disease Service  
Week ending January 9, 2021 (MMWR week 1)

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	HIGH
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	HIGH
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH



# January 16, 2021

### COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)

	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	40.33 ●	5.99 ○	10.41 ○	3
Northeast	44.45 ●	7.01 ○	10.55 ○	3
Central West	35.45 ●	5.72 ○	8.21 ○	3
Central East	50.70 ●	7.77 ○	10.90 ○	3
Southwest	42.70 ●	6.36 ○	10.39 ○	3
Southeast	53.05 ●	2.49 ○	13.04 ○	3
<b>STATEWIDE</b>				<b>3</b>

### COVID-19 Activity Level Report

New Jersey Department of Health  
Communicable Disease Service  
Week ending January 16, 2021 (MMWR week 2)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	HIGH
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	HIGH
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH





1 Low      2 Moderate      3 High      4 Very High

**January 23, 2021**

COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	39.86 ●	5.86 ○	10.70 ○	3
Northeast	49.93 ●	7.26 ○	10.76 ○	3
Central West	39.02 ●	5.77 ○	8.43 ○	3
Central East	56.13 ●	7.96 ○	11.15 ○	3
Southwest	46.58 ●	6.40 ○	10.65 ○	3
Southeast	57.60 ●	2.53 ○	12.98 ○	3
STATEWIDE				3

**COVID-19 Activity Level Report**  
New Jersey Department of Health  
Communicable Disease Service  
Week ending January 23, 2021 (MMWR week 3)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	HIGH
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	HIGH
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH



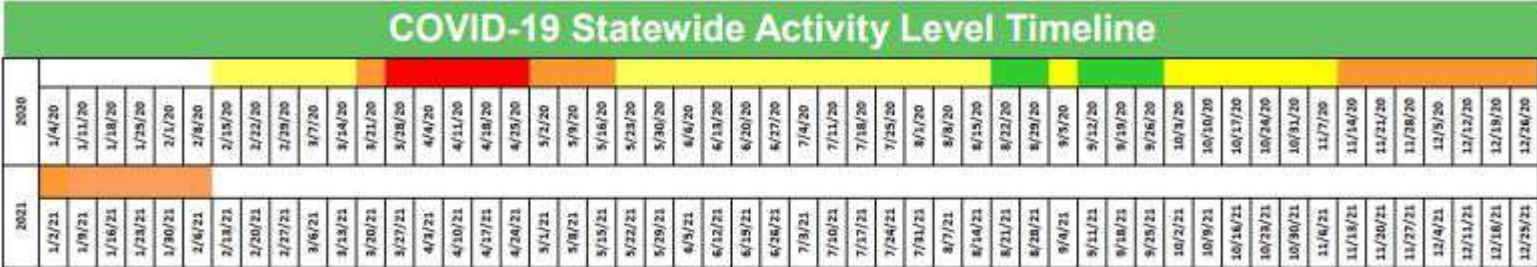
# January 30, 2021

COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	37.87 ●	5.47 ○	9.79 ○	3
Northeast	37.15 ●	6.46 ○	9.69 ○	3
Central West	28.91 ●	5.19 ○	7.09 ○	3
Central East	42.47 ●	7.16 ○	9.95 ○	3
Southwest	31.32 ●	4.58 ○	8.30 ○	3
Southeast	37.19 ●	2.16 ○	10.63 ○	3
STATEWIDE				3

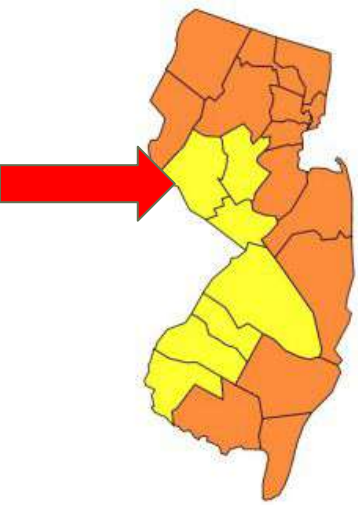
**COVID-19 Activity Level Report**  
New Jersey Department of Health  
Communicable Disease Service  
Week ending January 30, 2021 (MMWR week 4)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	HIGH
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	HIGH
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH





1 Low 2 Moderate 3 High 4 Very High

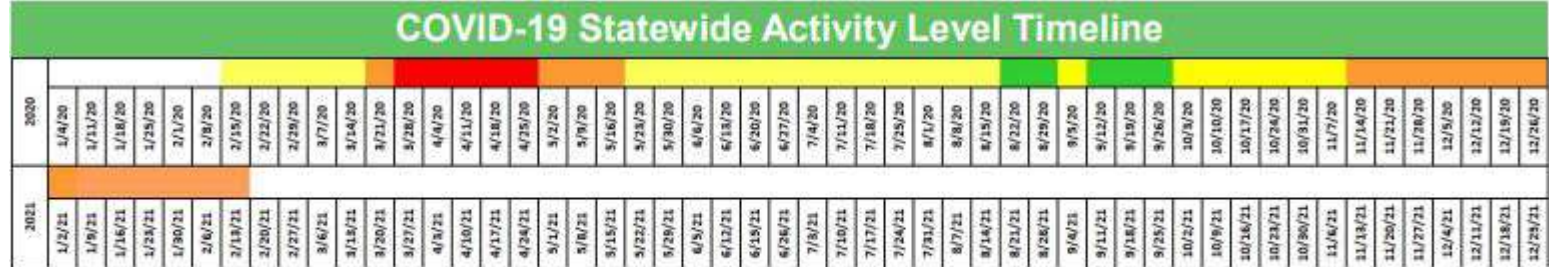


# February 6, 2021

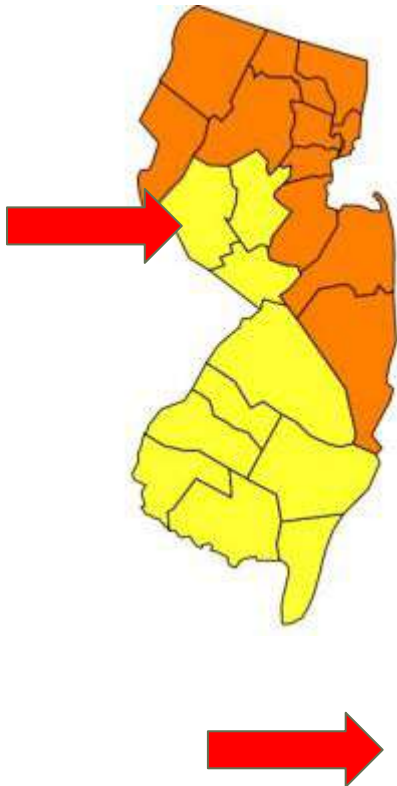
COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	26.79	4.23	10.22	3
Northeast	27.11	5.92	9.68	3
Central West	22.47	4.83	7.22	2
Central East	33.15	6.48	9.81	3
Southwest	22.02	4.36	7.20	2
Southeast	34.58	1.81	10.49	3
STATEWIDE				3

## COVID-19 Activity Level Report New Jersey Department of Health Communicable Disease Service Week ending February 6, 2021 (MMWR week 5)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	HIGH
STATEWIDE	HIGH



1 Low      2 Moderate      3 High      4 Very High



# February 13, 2021

COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	27.40 ●	4.70 ○	9.02 ○	3
Northeast	28.65 ●	5.23 ○	8.33 ○	3
Central West	21.42 ○	3.40 ○	6.42 ○	2
Central East	31.99 ●	5.29 ○	8.86 ○	3
Southwest	17.66 ○	3.32 ○	6.33 ○	2
Southeast	24.03 ○	1.37 ●	8.01 ○	2
STATEWIDE				3

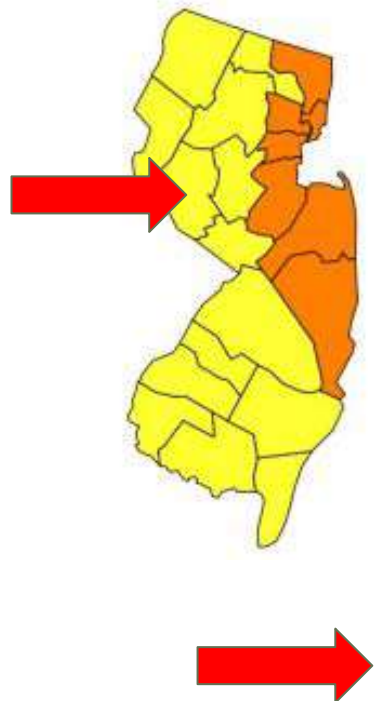
**COVID-19 Activity Level Report**  
 New Jersey Department of Health  
 Communicable Disease Service  
 Week ending February 13, 2021 (MMWR week 6)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	MODERATE
STATEWIDE	HIGH





1 Low      2 Moderate      3 High      4 Very High



# February 20, 2021

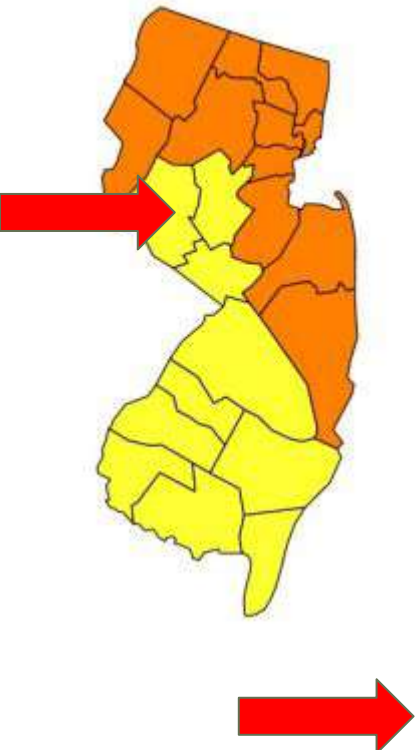
COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	23.02 ○	3.55 ○	7.78 ○	2
Northeast	27.96 ●	5.20 ○	8.42 ○	3
Central West	18.67 ○	3.16 ○	6.03 ○	2
Central East	28.54 ●	5.20 ○	8.23 ○	3
Southwest	17.50 ○	3.12 ○	6.05 ○	2
Southeast	21.70 ○	2.24 ○	7.94 ○	2
STATEWIDE				2

## COVID-19 Activity Level Report New Jersey Department of Health Communicable Disease Service Week ending February 20, 2021 (MMWR week 7)<sup>1</sup>

Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	MODERATE
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	MODERATE
STATEWIDE	MODERATE



1 Low      2 Moderate      3 High      4 Very High



# February 27, 2021

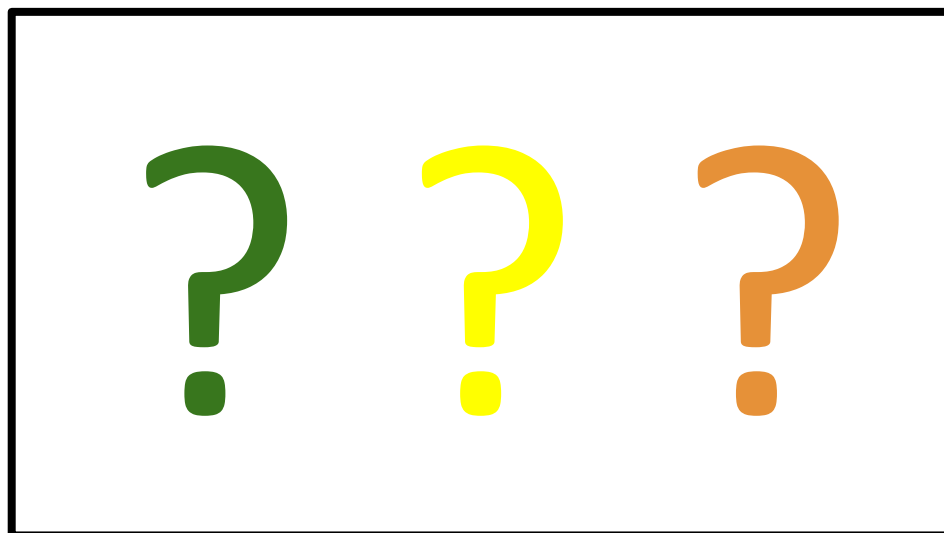
COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)				
	Case Rate <sup>3</sup>	Percent CLI <sup>4</sup>	Percent Positivity <sup>5</sup>	CALI Score <sup>6</sup>
Northwest	27.43 ●	4.17 ○	8.43 ○	3
Northeast	31.41 ●	5.23 ○	7.93 ○	3
Central West	21.23 ○	3.55 ○	5.64 ○	2
Central East	31.53 ●	5.25 ○	8.09 ○	3
Southwest	17.25 ○	2.77 ○	5.57 ○	2
Southeast	21.92 ○	1.95 ○	6.06 ○	2
STATEWIDE				3

COVID-19 Activity Level Report New Jersey Department of Health Communicable Disease Service Week ending February 27, 2021 (MMWR week 8) <sup>1</sup>	
Region <sup>2</sup>	Current Activity Level
Northwest	HIGH
Northeast	HIGH
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	HIGH
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	MODERATE
STATEWIDE	HIGH





**March 4, 2021**

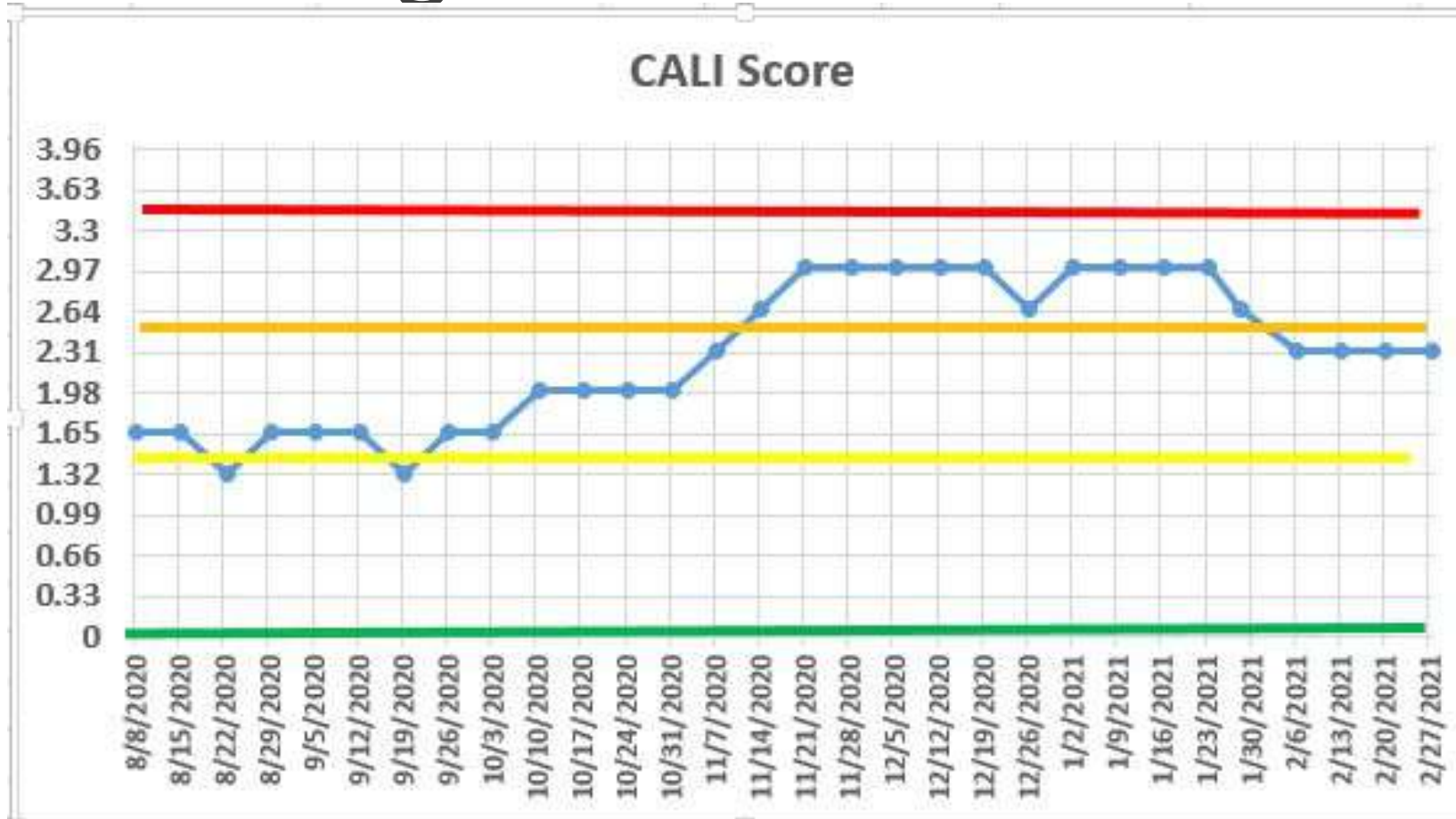


Region	Current Activity Level
Central West	?



# What trends do we see?

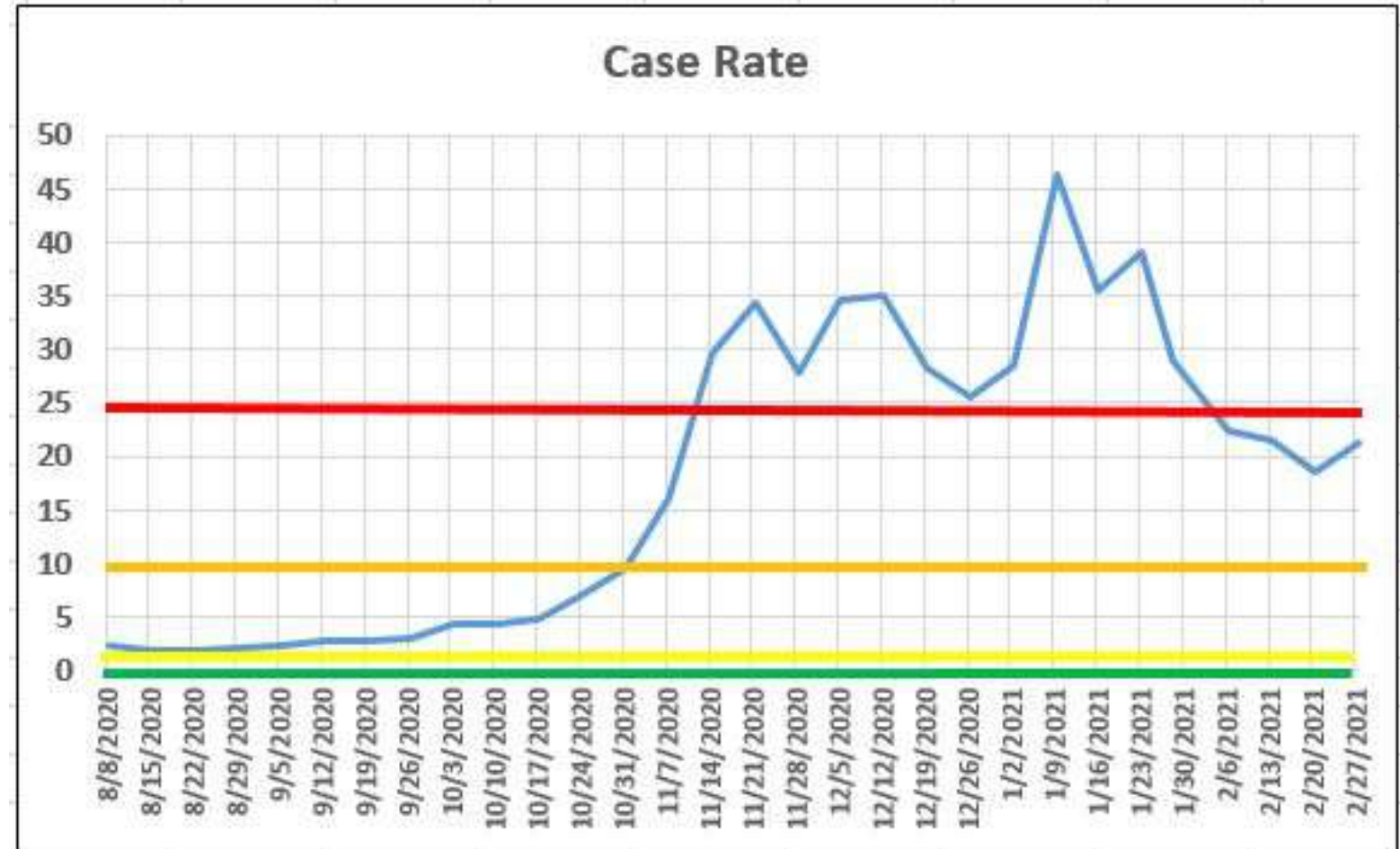
## Covid-19 Activity Level Indicator (CALI): Central West Region



# Covid-19 Activity Level Indicator (CALI): Central West Region

## Case Rate

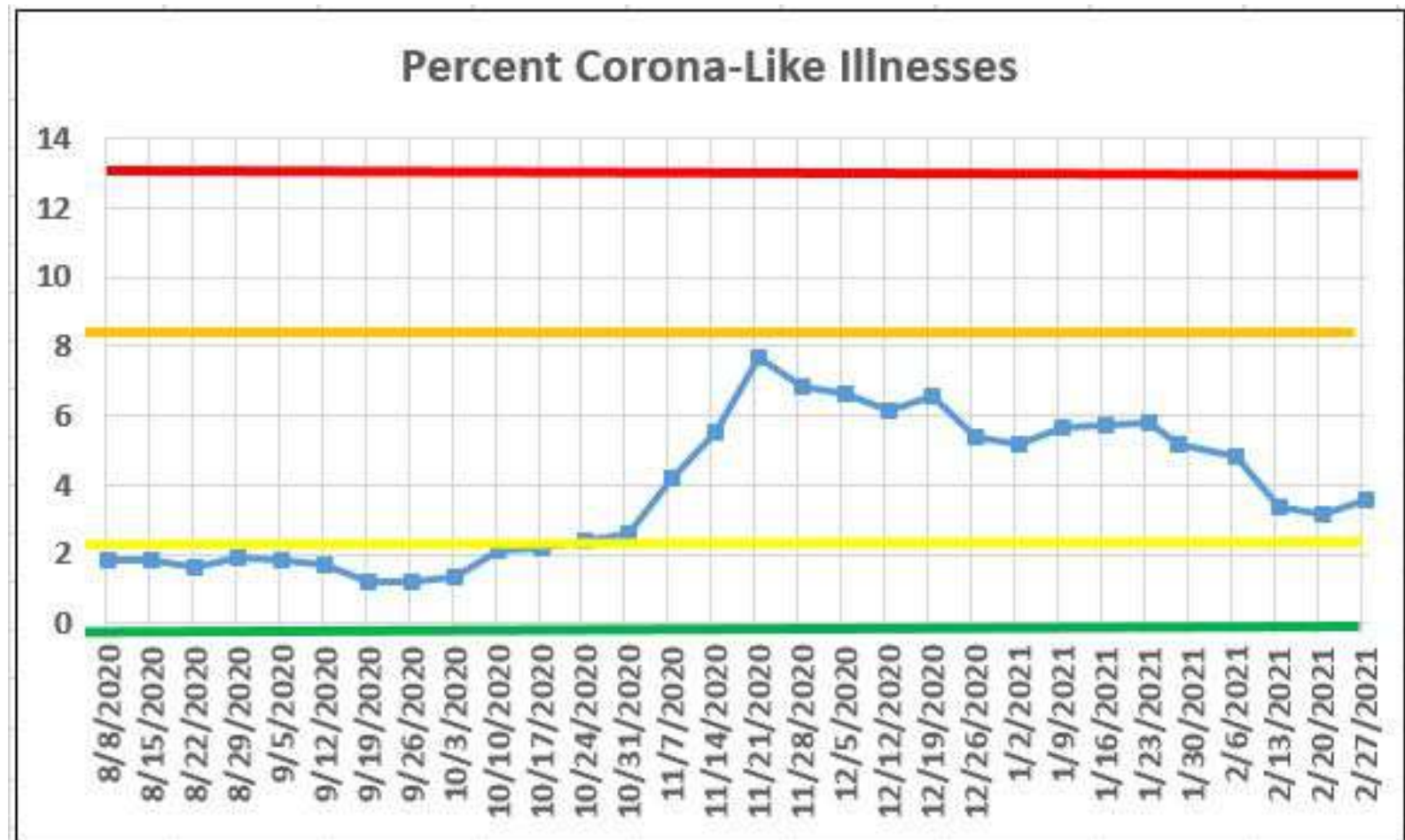
Count of daily new COVID cases for every 100,000 people as reported by the lab processing the test.



# Covid-19 Activity Level Indicator (CALI): Central West Region

## COVID-Like Illness (CLI)

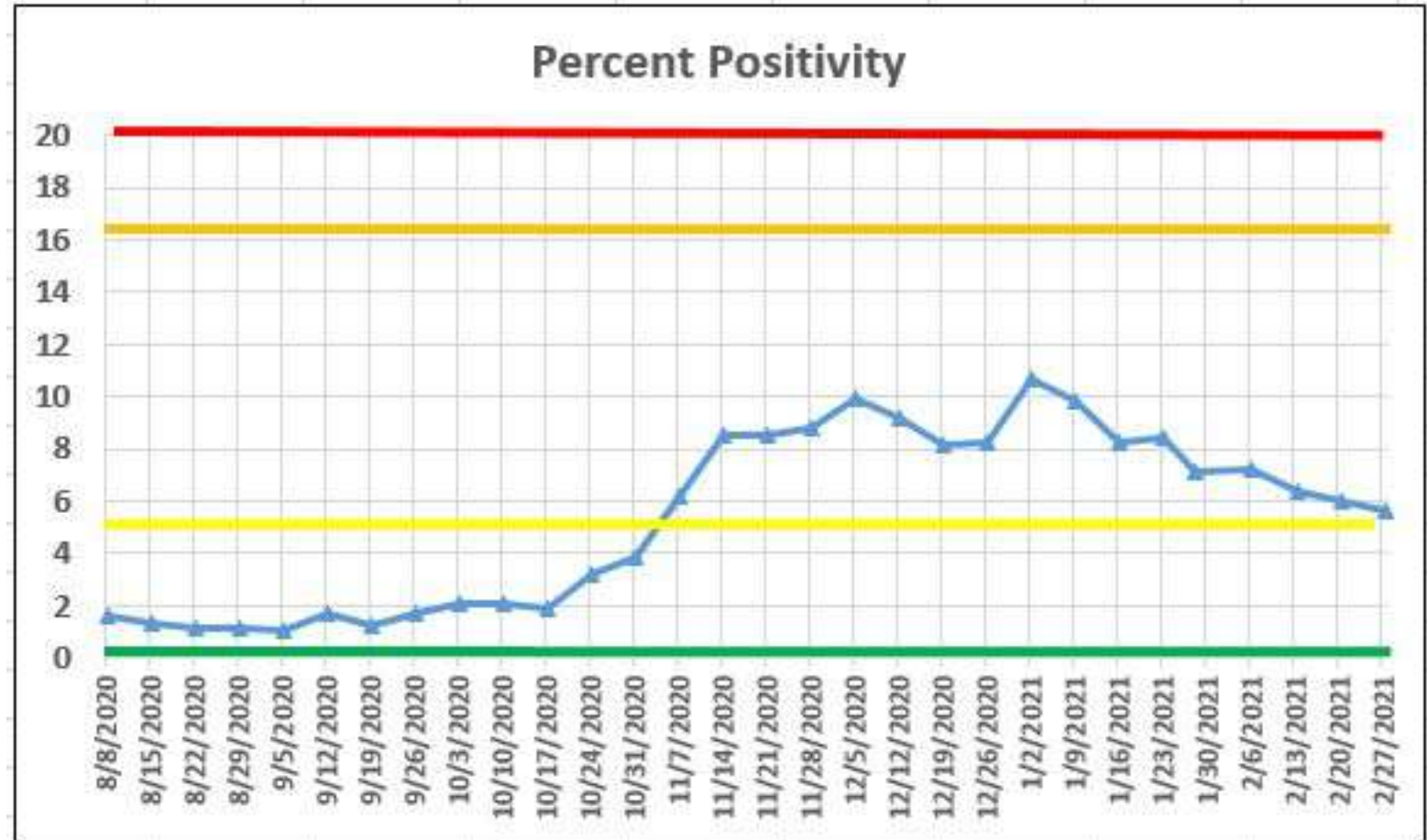
Percent of patients arriving at emergency departments with diagnostic codes of fever, cough, difficulty breathing and/or COVID (excluding flu).



# Covid-19 Activity Level Indicator (CALI): Central West Region

## Percent Positivity

Percentage of positive COVID-19 tests out of all tests performed.



# FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: Opening our School Doors Wider

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COVID-19 reported out as of 1/4/21

	Students	Staff	Total
BS	11	2	13
CH	10	5	15
FAD	4	2	6
RH	5	2	7
RFIS	16	1	17
JPC	12	3	15
District		4	4
Total	58	19	<u>77</u>



**REQUIRED FOR  
SCHOOL TO  
BEGIN  
BASELINE  
CONDITIONS**

**FULL REMOTE  
MODEL  
SCHOOL  
RETURN WITH  
NO CONTACT**

**LIMITED  
MODEL  
SCHOOLS  
OPEN FOR  
STAFF**

**LIMITED MODEL  
REMOTE LEARNING  
& BLEND OF  
IN-PERSON FOR  
SPECIFIC GROUPS**

**HYBRID MODEL  
BLEND OF  
IN-PERSON &  
REMOTE  
LEARNING**

**REGULAR  
MODEL ALL  
STUDENTS &  
STAFF IN  
SCHOOL**

**BASELINE  
CONDITIONS**

**TIER ONE**

**1**

**TIER TWO**

**2**

**TIER THREE**

**3**

**TIER FOUR**

**4**

**TIER FIVE**

**5**

### **Full Remote Model**

(all students virtual remote academy every week)

**Restrictions:**  
Schools Closed  
only essential  
personnel on site

**Health & Safety:**  
Schools Closed

**Activities:**  
Only Remote  
Options

**Full Remote learning**  
(preparing for all students virtual remote academy every week)

**Restrictions:** Schools closed to visitors, optionally open for limited staff.

**Health & Safety:**  
Social distancing  
Health screenings  
Masks required at all times  
Quarantine protocols  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations

**Activities:**  
Only Remote Options  
(exceptions include legal requirements.)

**Full Remote Model**  
(preparing for all students virtual remote academy every week)

**Restrictions:** Schools closed to visitors, open for greater number of staff members. Building offices fully staffed.

**Health & Safety:**  
Social distancing  
Health screenings  
Masks required at all times  
Quarantine protocols  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations

**Activities:**  
Only Remote Options  
(exceptions include legal requirements.)

**Hybrid A/B Model** (students in-person one week and virtual the next week, **except for neediest students who will attend each week in person.**)

**Restrictions:** Schools closed to visitors. Open for all staff.

**Health & Safety:**  
Social distancing  
Health screenings  
Masks required at all times  
Quarantine protocols  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations

**Activities:** All Pre-K and neediest Special Ed students and neediest ESL students in district building(s). Childcare at Copper Hill with YMCA.

**Goal:  
11/2/2020  
Began  
10/5/2020**

**9/21/2020**

**Hybrid A/B Model**  
(students in-person one week and virtual the next week)

**Restrictions:** Limited indoor gatherings. Open for all staff.

**Health & Safety:**  
Social distancing  
Health screenings  
Masks required at all times  
Quarantine protocols  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations

**Activities:**  
Same as Tier Three and Remote options for sports and clubs. Sports and clubs may be offered in accordance with health department rules. New guidance provides guidelines for in-person sports.

**March 5th  
March 22nd**

**Regular Model:**  
All students & staff in school, full days, full in-person instruction

**Restrictions:** None

**Health & Safety:**  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations  
Quarantine protocols

**Activities:**  
All sports/athletics & clubs open

# FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: Opening our School Doors Wider

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Total Number of Students per building for In-Person Learning, as of March 22, 2021:

- **Barley Sheaf School = 312**
- **Copper Hill School = 317**
- **Francis A. Desmares School = 365**
- **Robert Hunter School = 293**
- **Reading-Fleming Intermediate School = 480**
- **J.P. Case Middle School = 518**

**TOTAL = 2,390**

Numbers of students represent the requests received before the Friday, February 26, 5 PM deadline. We are still receiving parent requests for students to return to school in-person.

# In Support of Schools Reopening: Quotes from Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in K-12 schools

“Schools are an important part of the infrastructure of communities. They provide safe, supportive learning environments for students and employ teachers and other staff.”

“Although children can be infected with SARS-CoV-2, can get sick from COVID-19, and can spread the virus to others, less than 10% of COVID-19 cases in the United States have been among children and adolescents aged 5–17 years ([COVID Data Tracker](#)).”

“Schools have indirect benefits to the community, including enabling parents, guardians, and caregivers to work.”

“Evidence from several studies suggests that children and adolescents may be less commonly infected with SARS-CoV-2 than adults.”

“For schools to provide in-person learning, associations between levels of community transmission and risk of transmission in school should be considered.”

# The Revision of Policy 1648 means that our cohort schedule will be the following:

Date	Cohort A	Cohort B
March 8-12	In-Person	Remote Learning
March 15-19	Remote Learning	In-Person
March 22-26	Cohorts A & B combine for five days a week instruction on an early dismissal schedule.	
~Parents who selected all-virtual instruction for their child will continue with all-remote learning.~		

Preschool will attend as follows:

- Preschool morning program: 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
- Preschool afternoon program: 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
- Preschool full day program: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.





# Merging Cohorts and Returning to Greater Normalcy

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- All students will receive instruction in all core subjects daily.
- We will also return to a Day 1-6 rotation for K-4 Specials.

Preschool - Sample	Elementary - Sample
TBD	8:55 Start Classes
Opening Group	Morning Meeting (20)
Make-Believe Play	Reading/Writing (90)
Large Group Literacy	Math (55)
Physical Development	Hand wash & Lunch (30)
Small Group Math/Science	Science/Social Studies (30)
Closing Group	Specials (40)
TBD	1:20 Dismissal



# Merging Cohorts and Returning to Greater Normalcy

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- All students will receive instruction in all core subjects daily or every other day.
- Reading-Fleming will resume the Day 1-6 rotation for specials and a 2 day rotation for Science Social Studies.
- J.P. Case will resume the Day A/Day B rotation with subjects occurring every other day.

Reading-Fleming	J.P. Case
8:17 Start Classes	8:15 Start Classes
Homeroom (10)	Homeroom (8)
Block 1 (46)	Block 1 (61)
Block 2 (46)	Block 2 (61)
Block 3 (46)	Block 3 (61)
Block 4 (46)	Block 4 (61)
Block 5 (46)	
12:50 Dismissal	12:50 Dismissal

# Merging Cohorts and Returning to Greater Normalcy

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## Existing Teacher Tools

- Laptop Computer
- Integrated Camera
- Document Camera
- LCD Projector
- Zoom subscription
- Google Classroom
- See Saw
- Subject-specific applications

## Support Simultaneous/Simulcasting

- Second Computer Monitor
- External Webcam
- Speaker bar
- 2 Pendant Microphones

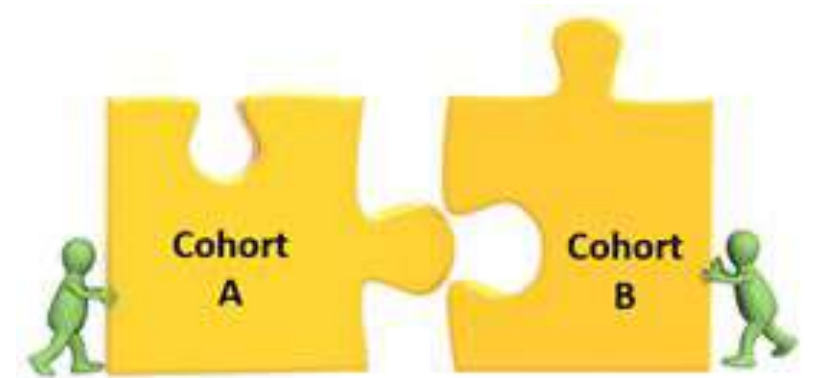
## Infrastructure Improvements

- Doubling Internet bandwidth
- Greater redundancy

# Merging Cohorts and Returning to Greater Normalcy

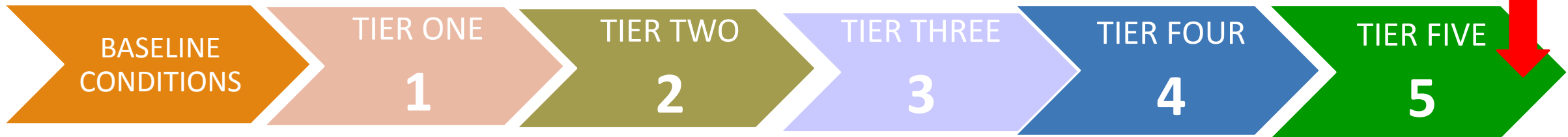
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- March 15-19 - Cohort A is virtual and Cohort B is in-person.
- March 16 - Students in grades 5-8 will adopt the “Genesis” schedule but continue to follow the Cohort A or B weekly rotation.
- March 22 (Day 4 & Day B) - All students in Cohort A & B will merge and attend classes in person.



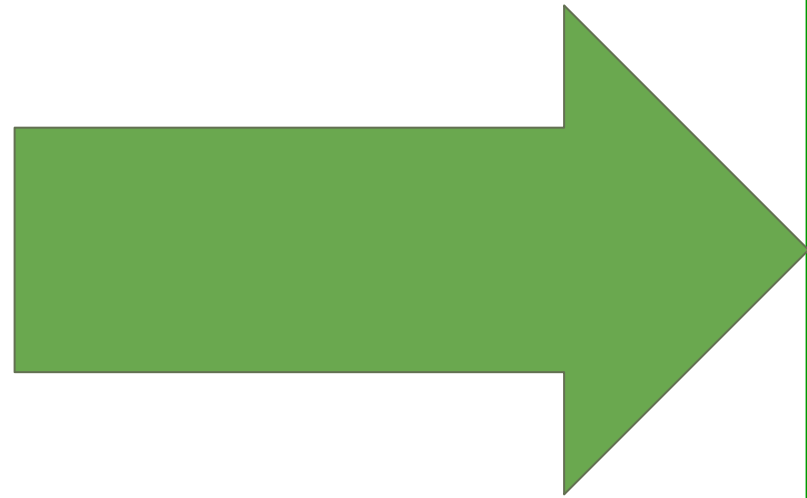
# WHAT WILL SEPTEMBER 2021 LOOK LIKE?

REGULAR MODEL  
ALL STUDENTS &  
STAFF IN SCHOOL



**Goal: In-person instruction, 5 days per week for all students**

- In-person instruction for all students, five days per week
- August Kindergarten orientation is planned for in-person
- Planning for June 8th grade graduation in-person
- Planning for end-of-year celebrations in-person (Camp Bernie, Camp Mason, 4th grade clap-outs...)



**Regular Model:**  
All students & staff in school, full days, full in-person instruction

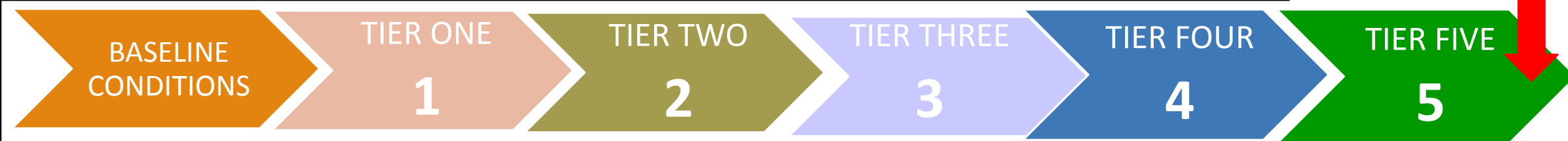
**Restrictions:** None

**Health & Safety:**  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations  
Quarantine protocols

**Activities:**  
All sports/athletics & clubs open

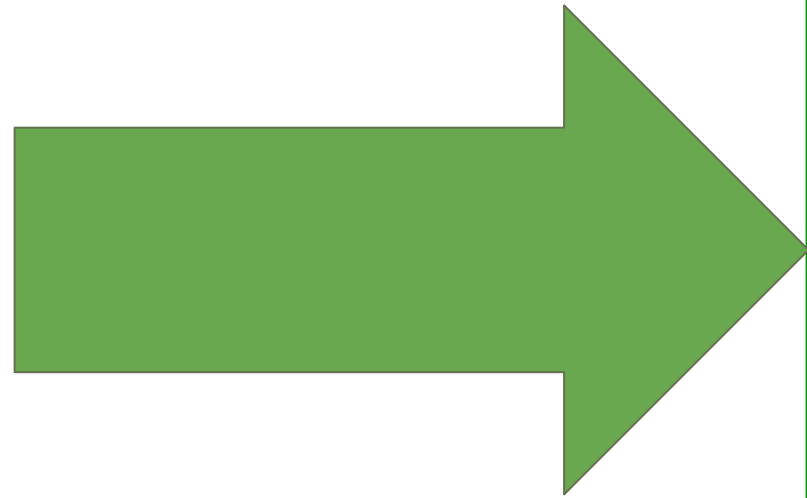
# OPENING OUR DOORS WIDER FOR MORE STUDENTS FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING WHILE STILL SUPPORTING OUR VIRTUAL STUDENTS IN OUR VIRTUAL ACADEMY

**REGULAR MODEL  
ALL STUDENTS &  
STAFF IN SCHOOL**



Questions

?



**Regular Model:**  
All students & staff in school, full days, full in-person instruction

**Restrictions:** None

**Health & Safety:**  
Sanitization and disinfection regulations  
Quarantine protocols

**Activities:**  
All sports/athletics & clubs open



# Sources

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- <https://youtu.be/-EaBJxpfiI>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/schools-childcare/K-12-Operational-Strategy-02142021.pdf>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>
- <https://www.straussesmay.com/seportal/Public/DistrictPolicy.aspx?policyid=1648&search=COVID&id=ca89f6c80de04b0fa6a75266e9cf8f26>
- [https://nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID\\_GuidanceForSportsActivities.pdf](https://nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_GuidanceForSportsActivities.pdf)
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- <https://hcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/5b05521aaf1f4e3dbf5e0941572a5ff2>
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- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). Reopening K-12 Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Prioritizing Health, Equity, and Communities. *Consensus study report from The National Academies Press*. 2020; doi:10.17226/25858
- Murillo-Llorente MT, Perez-Bermejo M. COVID-19: Social Irresponsibility of Teenagers Towards the Second Wave in Spain. *J Epidemiol*. 2020;30(10):483. doi:10.2188/jea.JE20200360
- Aleta A, Moreno Y. Age differential analysis of COVID-19 second wave in Europe reveals highest incidence among young adults. Preprint. *MedRxiv*. 2020; Posted 2020 November 13. doi:10.1101/2020.11.11.20230177

# SUPERINTENDENT 2020-2021 GOALS

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Board of Education Presentation  
March 8, 2021





# Superintendent McGann Goal #1:

## Academics/Curriculum Objectives

1. **A successful restart-- priority goal number 1.**

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2. New and improved remote/virtual instruction model.
3. The District will monitor and adjust the multi-year plan as needed:
  - a. Foster partnerships with higher-education institutions, STEM-rich institutions, business communities, and local community leaders.
  - b. Lead and influence in STEM
    - i. Utilize appropriate interpersonal styles and approaches in facilitating a group towards task achievement.
4. Improve the quality of educational programs and services to students with a focus on improving educational programming and services to students that traditionally under-perform.





The HSMC (Hunterdon, Somerset, Mercer Tri-County STEM Ecosystem) in support of the Flemington-Raritan School District received a 2021 NJ STEM Month Mini-Grant to support the purchase of STEM kits for students.

VIA EMAIL ONLY

February 1, 2021

Dear Kristen Wolff,

On behalf of the New Jersey STEM Pathways Network (NJSPN), I want to congratulate you and the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education on being selected as a **2021 NJ STEM Month Mini-Grant**

**Highlights:**

- Workshops led by current K-S teachers to share ideas for teaching mathematics, science, engineering, and/or technology in hybrid or remote settings.
- Networking Time: open discussion with teachers of similar grade-levels and/or content areas from around the state.

**Two-Session Zoom Series**  
**February 11th & 18th**  
**3:45pm-5:15pm**

JOIN US FOR ONE OR BOTH SESSIONS.

**Register at: [tiny.cc/STEMPD](https://tiny.cc/STEMPD)**

# I CAN STEM

New Jersey Role Model  
 January 2021 Inductee

**Dr. Lauren Madden**  
 Associate Professor at The College of

#ICANSTEM

FLEMINGTON-RARITAN  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

# GRADES 5-8 STEM CLUB

**EXPLORE - CREATE - DISCOVER - INNOVATE**

- Do you like to have fun with new challenges?
- Do you like to make, build and invent things?
- Do you want to try a new skill?

Discover how science, technology, engineering, & math (STEM) skills are used in the real world. You can make:

- Catapults
- Rolling Vehicles
- Truss Bridges
- Friction Climbers
- Your Own Invention

STEM Club students will receive a FREE Pitco STEM Creator Kit

The club will meet virtually with a STEM Club teacher twice weekly.

**Ready to join  
STEM Club?**  
 Sign up using this  
Google link.

# Superintendent McGann Goal #2: Special Services



- 
1. Align staffing and programs based on student needs.
  2. Support Special Services leadership to foster partnerships and improve the quality of educational programs and services to students.
  3. Identify student/faculty mental health issues and implement a systemic approach of support.
    - a. Provide district-wide information to support parents, staff, and community understanding of emotional health and well-being.



# Superintendent McGann Goal #2: Special Services



## The Mental Health Crisis Facing Our Young People

Mental Health Outcomes Have Been Degrading for Students for Over a Decade



- 1 in 5 students struggle with a mental health disorder
- The population of students with significant mental health disorders has increased by 76% since 2011
- Youth suicide rates increased 57% from 2007 to 2018
- For younger students (e.g. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) the rate of death by suicide has tripled in the past 10 years

The COVID-19 Pandemic Has Increased Sources of Trauma



- Studies show that quarantine has significantly increased rates of anxiety and depression among children
- For 11-21 year olds, rates of suicidal ideation increased 45-60% vs. the prior year in the early days of the pandemic
- Interest in divorce increased by 34% in the early days of the pandemic vs. the same time period the previous year
- Since the pandemic, emergency visits for mental health issues increased 24% for 5-11 year olds, and 31% for 12-17 year-olds

The Latest Research Indicates that Students Will Have Significant Social-Emotional Challenges Upon Return to School



- Challenges in re-integrating into the social structures of school
- Challenges in re-setting sleep patterns
- Anxiety and stress of making up for lost academic progress

# Superintendent McGann

## District Goals Numbers 1-5



- 
1. Continue to educate our children in the best ways possible during this changing and challenging time, including getting our students back into schools as soon as it is possible to safely and effectively do so;
  2. Developing and enhancing curriculum plans for virtual and in-person learning; and continuing to provide social/emotional support for students and staff as these changes take place.

# Superintendent McGann District Goals Numbers 1-5



## **Live Zoom Learning**

Teachers will model processes, explain instructions, and deliver instruction live on scheduled times according to the student's schedule.



## **Collaborate with Others**

Students will work virtually alongside other students to collaborate about learning experiences.



## **Live Zoom Learning**

Teachers will model processes, explain instructions, and deliver instruction live on scheduled times according to the student's schedule.



## **"Assignments Posted Consistently"**

Students will have scheduled learning activities consistent with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District curriculum.



# Superintendent McGann District Goals



- 
3. Recommend and provide professional development to ensure our staff is as effective as possible in this challenging and changing learning environment.
  4. Continue to work toward reducing and eliminating inequities within our educational system. This could include professional development, meeting with the equity advisory committee, etc.
  5. Complete referendum projects according to projected timelines as conditions permit.







# Superintendent McGann Board Goal



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Continue to work with the Board to improve effective communication and collaboration between Superintendent and Board.

As large decisions are being made with the school community, the details surrounding these decisions need to be provided and transparent.



Flemington-Raritan Regional School District  
 Dr. Kari McGann  
 Superintendent of Schools  
 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300  
 Phone: (908) 284-7561 Fax: (908) 284-7656  
[kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us)



March 5, 2021

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents and Community Members,

Using local and State health data we have been making plans and having discussions with Board Members, building administrators, FREA Leadership, and local health officials to open our doors wider for students to return to school. On March 1, 2021, the Board of Education revised Policy 1648 to include wording from the American Academy of Pediatrics and allow social distancing between seating to be three (3) feet. This allows more students to return to in-person learning for instruction five days a week. The revised Board-approved policy is [linked here](#). The revised Board policy reduces the spacing between student desks to at least three (3) feet and ideally six (6) feet instead of requiring six feet. Our schools have aimed to return students to in-person learning while simultaneously providing parents the option to have their child learn remotely.

For the past four weeks, the COVID-19 report delineates our Central West region in the "yellow." This week's [COVID-19 reports](#) the Central West region case rate (proportion of the population of daily new COVID-19 cases for every 100,000 people) went up slightly as did the Percent CLI (the presence of coronavirus diagnosis codes from emergency department data), but the percent positivity rate (percentage of total positive COVID-19 PCR tests out all tests performed) decreased.

You may be asking, "What will we do if our region moves into the orange?" We will not go back to a Cohort A and Cohort B alternating weekly hybrid schedule unless there are serious local issues in our community with community spread. If we return to an "orange" level and see an increase in cases and we remain in an "orange" status for several weeks, we may need to consider more serious alterations in order to adjust to the community spread, but bouncing back and forth between hybrid and a five-day in-person schedule does not allow for a consistent instructional program. There are adjustments we can make without having to fully disrupt our educational program. These may include but are not limited to the elimination of in-person to only virtual participation for sports at the middle school level or the possible discontinuation of lunch in our elementary buildings if either of these was deemed to be a factor in the increase in community spread. Other alterations may be necessary depending on the seriousness of the local case rate, percent CLI, and percent positivity rate.

The revision of Policy 1648 means that our cohort schedule will be the following.

Date	Cohort A	Cohort B
March 8-12	In-Person	Remote Learning
March 15-19	Remote Learning	In-Person
March 22-26	Cohorts A & B combine for five days a week instruction on an early dismissal schedule.	
~Parents who selected all-virtual instruction for their child will continue with all-remote learning.~		



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Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Families,

As information about the Coronavirus continues to dominate the news, and the questions surrounding the reopening of our school doors remain front and center, I want to reassure you that, as always, the safety of our students and staff is our top priority. We are working diligently on a plan to return staff and students in the fall safely. On June 26, 2020, Governor Murphy released [The Road Back: New Jersey's Restart and Recovery Plan for Education](#). The long-awaited guidance document sets forth a strategic road map for reopening our schools. The plan calls explicitly for our brick and mortar schools to open in the fall by stating, "...absent a shift in the public health data, school buildings will open in some capacity for in-person instruction and operations in the fall."

We anticipate that New Jersey will continue the road back to economic and social activity with a new resilience. We expect that most activities will be allowed with significant safeguarding. The District continues to apply precautions. Work that can be done at home continues to be done at home. Our actions are guided by local, state, and federal health authorities who are experts in keeping our communities safe from public health threats. We monitor the agencies' guidance daily and are in particularly close contact with our local health department. I continue to talk regularly with Hunterdon County School Superintendents and with Karen DeMarco, the Director and Health Officer of the Hunterdon County Department of Health. You can find information from the [Hunterdon County Health Department about the Coronavirus](#).

Below is an update of our current work:

- ➡ Work began the planning phases weeks ago with our surveys to staff, students, and parents. These surveys, along with other resources, are used to guide our planning.
- ➡ Our Health and Safety Plan must be approved by the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Board of Education, the New Jersey Department of Education and the Executive County Superintendent's Office for in-person instruction to take place. The plan will include attention to a variety of measures including, but not limited to, attendance, screening, protective equipment, social distancing, cleaning, and transportation. Our plan will also take into account mental health concerns and the needs of special education students.
- ➡ The four Readiness Think Tank Task Forces have been formed and are meeting together to provide recommendations to me on the reopening of schools. Some task forces met last week and others this week. Task Forces will continue to meet next week in preparation for final recommendations due to me by July 20, 2020. I will share Task Force recommendations with the public at our Board of Education meeting on July 27, 2020.



# SUPERINTENDENT 2020-2021 GOALS

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QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

