



## Superintendent's Report July 14, 2022

Learning continues in the summer here in Closter Public Schools! Some of our teachers attended professional development in-district during the last week of June. The sessions focused on best practices in delivering ELA and math instruction. I sat in on some of the sessions and the teachers who attended shared positive feedback with me. There will be additional professional development on the same topics in the end of July.

Our student summer programs started on July 5<sup>th</sup>! Students attending the programs are reading, writing, reviewing math skills, and making art each day. For all students, please be reminded that summer reading and math activities are posted on the [Hillside School website](#) and on Schoology for Tenakill students. These activities will help students keep their academic skills sharp over the summer.

The NJDOE requires us to update the *Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service*. The NJDOH issued on July 6, 2022, updated COVID-19 public health recommendations for K-12 schools. The recommendation is that schools should continue the COVID-19 prevention strategies “while supporting and prioritizing uninterrupted, full-time, in-person learning and care.” The primary prevention strategies are:

- Encouraging students and staff to stay up to date with vaccinations.
- Encouraging parents and staff to report positive test results, illness, and household exposures to the school nurse.
- Enforce isolation and exclusion for school for those who are symptomatic or have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Supporting mask use by students and staff who choose to mask (masking remains optional).
- Implement control measures recommended by the Mid-Bergen Health Department in response to clusters of cases in classrooms and confirmed outbreaks (could be mandatory masking for specific classrooms).
- Comply with the vaccination and testing requirements for staff required by Executive Orders 253 and 264.
- Continue to report outbreaks and suspected outbreaks to the Mid-Bergen Health Department.

Large outbreaks or important circulating variants may necessitate more stringent disease control strategies. The July 5<sup>th</sup> guidance states that schools may transition away from the case-investigation response model to a routine disease control model, which will not require contact tracing in the 2022-2023 school year. The updated *Closter Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service* is posted on the [district website](#).

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I am committed to keeping everyone safe in school, and I am excited that our reopening in September 2022, will be a step closer to what school was like prior to the start of the pandemic in March 2020.

As summer continues, I encourage students to read, practice math facts, and read some more!  
Enjoy the warm days.

*Vincent Mc Hale*