

TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

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August 5, 2020

Dear Byram Township Schools' Community,

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on the district plans for the upcoming fall. First of all, I want to thank the school community for participating in the parent survey, sharing your ideas, and offering encouragement as the district worked on creating its reopening plan. The development of the plan has obviously been challenging, encompassing the numerous requirements outlined in the Department of Education's guidance document, "The Road Back", as well as our stakeholders' varied beliefs and perspectives. The development process has taken place in the midst of a rapidly changing public health crisis, but we have never wavered from our most important consideration, the safety and well-being of our students and staff. As educators, we are also deeply concerned with and involved in the academic program that our faculty will deliver to our students.

The plan was created after much work within the district, as well as the review of multiple guidelines from government and professional organizations. We have also consulted regularly with other administrators in the region and beyond. The district reopening plan is a hybrid plan incorporating an A/B Day, with students placed in an alternating in-person/virtual day schedule operating on an early dismissal schedule. This scenario has been developed so that when the public health situation permits, will allow an easier transition for the district to move back to a "traditional" school day. The changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic also means that we must be prepared to transition to virtual instruction at any time. Feedback from educators and parents has allowed us to evaluate and refine

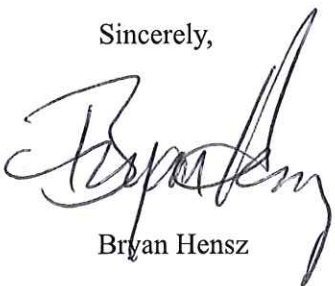
virtual instruction methods and plans to create a more effective and efficient remote teaching/learning process.

Please know that safety protocols have been a constant and major focus within the plan, such as but not limited to: social distancing, face coverings at all times except for breaks and if unless individual health conditions dictate otherwise, using multiple entrances/exits to limit congested areas, staggered dismissals by bus, health screenings, increase of hand sanitizer stations, cleaning and sanitizing schedules will be created and strictly followed, quarantine areas will be established in each building for students exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms, and the district will follow updated guidelines for quarantining students and staff upon their return from areas identified by the state as having a high incidence of COVID-19.

As you are aware, school reopening this year is both challenging and complicated for educators, parents, students, and the entire school community. Over the coming weeks, we will continue to address an array of specific issues and considerations as the situations present themselves, but our plan remains the A/B alternating day schedule. We will continue to share information through your children's building principals and school nurses, on our webpage, and through the superintendent's office. The Byram Township Schools' Reopening Plan will be posted on the district website once the New Jersey Department of Education - Sussex County Office reviews the plan. More information regarding the district reopening can be obtained from the posted plan.

Thank you, as always, for your patience and support. We know that you share our goal of starting the school year with all of our students feeling safe and excited to restart the learning process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Hensz", written in a cursive style.

Bryan Hensz

Superintendent