

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE - June 27, 2020

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, and Staff:

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on new guidance for schools pertaining to school reopening in September from Governor Murphy, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), and the Gloucester County Department of Health (GCDOH). As anticipated, this situation is extremely fluid and changing day-by-day as we move toward the reopening. We will be sending out a short survey to collect information from our learning community. This information will be very valuable to us as we continue to develop our plan - we believe it is critical for all of us to work together to be prepared to meet this challenge, and we seek to be sensitive to the varying needs of all those affected by the collective decisions we must make.

Under this new guidance, the newly-formed West Deptford School District Reopening Task Force is meeting to gather information, compile questions, and make recommendations. This small group represents all stakeholders in our community and schools, and the members will be bringing information from their stakeholder groups to the Task Force for review and action.

The Principals are currently working with members of the Task Force to tailor the reopening plan to meet the needs of students at their individual levels. Our Child Study Team is also coordinating with the County Office to ensure that students with special needs are provided with the services they require.

There are still many questions to answer in the weeks ahead, and the information and guidance we are working with is changing daily. Our District is continuing to work on addressing how athletics will resume at the Middle and High School levels, along with transportation, and food services.

Please accept our appreciation for your patience as we make these difficult decisions, and for working with us to keep our students and staff virus-free. As you are aware, this is a rapidly-changing situation, and I will continue to update our school community frequently as more information becomes available. For more information about the reopening, COVID-19, and resources for your families, please visit our District website.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Cappello, Esq.

Superintendent of Schools