



2210 West County Line Road • Suite 1 • Jackson, New Jersey 08527 • Tel: 732.370.1150 • Fax: 732.901.0736

Affiliated with Gateway School, Carteret, NJ & Harbor School, Eatontown, NJ

March 12, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Families of our students naturally have questions and concerns about the plans our schools have developed to address possible COVID 19 exposure, both at school and at home.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus, and we are learning more about it every day. There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. At this point, the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes it. Stopping the spread of the virus through everyday practices is the best way to keep people healthy.

Schools, working together with local health departments, have an important role in slowing the spread of diseases to help ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments. Schools serve students, staff, and visitors from throughout the community. All of these people may have close contact in the school setting, often sharing spaces, equipment, and supplies.

We will follow the New Jersey Department of Health's guidance on determining exposure risk and the subsequent management of people exposed to COVID 19. *Please be advised that the NJDOH does not consider "contacts of contacts" to have been exposed to COVID 19, that is people exposed to asymptomatic people with potential exposures to COVID 19 (such as in a household).*

To prepare for possible community transmission of COVID-19, we have been planning and preparing.


- We have procedures to ensure students and staff who become sick at school or arrive at school sick are sent home as soon as possible.
- We plan to keep sick students and staff separate from well students and staff until they can leave.
- We would like to remind you that students cannot come to school if they have a fever (temperature 100.4 degrees or over) and must remain at home until they are fever free for over 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. Please remember that schools are not expected to screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19.
- We have limited staff movement between our schools and cancelled activities that include large groups of people.
- We have increased environmental cleaning including frequently touched surfaces and built strategies based on our everyday school policies and practices to reduce the spread of a wide variety of infectious diseases (e.g., seasonal flu).

Thank you for your attention to this matter. It is important that we keep the lines of communication open in order to keep our students and community safe. We will continue to keep you updated as we get more information. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



John Gonzalez, Principal



Lee Vodofsky, Supervisor of Instruction