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December 5, 2020

Dear Paramus Community,

Regardless of our individual experiences and opinions concerning the impact the pandemic has had on our school community, we all share the common goal of ensuring our students receive the academic, social, and emotional supports they need. While the decision to transition to full-remote learning is extraordinarily complex and multifaceted, the simple fact remains that the Superintendent and Board of Education are obligated both ethically and by NJDOE mandate to make decisions regarding school openings and closures in a responsible manner that places the health and safety of our school community first and foremost. Although both the Board of Education and I continue to remain firm in our belief that the best place for our students is in the classroom, we are obligated to act responsibly and follow the recommendations of the Department of Health while our community remains mired in a global pandemic.

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide information and opportunities for essential learning to all members of our school community, we are offering two sets of dynamic workshops and information sessions for our parents/guardians:

- **[Raising Resilient Kids](#)**
  - Paramus Public Schools, in partnership with Care Plus, NJ, will be offering virtual workshops on a monthly basis that will cover a range of topics related to the ongoing pandemic and how it may impact mental health. During these workshops, our Care Plus clinicians will provide specific strategies to help parents/guardians navigate these challenging times. The first virtual workshop, “The Prolonged Pandemic: Do you have enough strategies to ride the wave?” will be offered on December 16th, 2020. Further information on this workshop and the remaining workshops in the series is located on the [Raising Resilient Kids: Parent/Guardian Workshop flyer](#).
  
- **[Community Connections Virtual Information Sessions](#)**
  - We are inviting all parents/guardians to participate in information sessions dealing with a variety of school-related topics such as pandemic-related health protocols, social-emotional learning, instructional technology, finance and budgeting, and important curriculum enhancements. These sessions will be designed to provide interested parents/guardians with additional insight into the ongoing applicability of these topics to their children’s schooling as well as to provide opportunities for them to ask questions and share comments with key members of our administrative and planning teams. If you are interested in participating in any of these sessions, please complete the [Paramus Community Connections Virtual Information Session Invitation](#).



As mentioned in the [November 25, 2020 update](#), we have added a [COVID-19 Quarantine Dashboard](#) to our [Paramus Community Connections](#) website. This dashboard is updated in real-time whenever there is an exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual within any of our school buildings that results in a quarantine for students and/or staff. While you may access and monitor the dashboard at any time, if you would like to be notified via email whenever there is an update to the dashboard, please complete the [COVID-19 Quarantine Dashboard Notification form](#). You have the option of receiving notifications for as few or as many buildings as you select on the form. Of course, anyone considered a “close contact” of a positive individual will still be directly informed by the district. Also, please keep in mind that the numbers represented on the dashboard only include those cases that result in an in-school exposure to others. While there are additional cases of COVID-19 positive individuals within our school community beyond those represented on the dashboard, these cases did not result in exposure to anyone within our schools and therefore are not considered “reportable” by the Department of Health.

Finally, as a reminder, you may always submit any questions or comments through the [Questions and Comments](#) section of our [Paramus Community Connections](#) website. Each member of the community who submits a question through this site will receive a response to his/her specific question.

Sincerely,

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

Sean Adams  
Superintendent of Schools