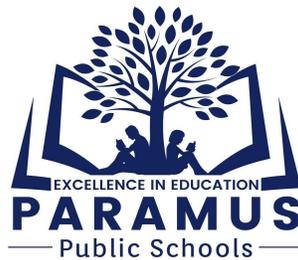


Office of the Superintendent
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Sean P. Adams
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January 22, 2021

Dear Paramus Community,

It has been absolutely wonderful having our in-person learners back in the classrooms this week! As I visit each of our schools and observe the students and staff interacting with each other both in the building and virtually, I remain in awe of the adaptability displayed by our community this school year. There are many elements that have dramatically and suddenly changed within teaching and learning; however, not once has the resiliency of our incredible community failed to carry us through.

As discussed in my [January 15, 2021 update](#), a number of the district's [Restart and Recovery Committees](#) have begun the very important work of reviewing changing health guidelines, analyzing experiential knowledge gained during this school year, and developing effective means of soliciting input from the larger school community in order to explore the feasibility of potential changes to our in-person learning models. While the immediate focus of this work will be on developing recommendations for the current school year, it will also serve as a launching point for looking ahead to developing recommendations for the 2021-2022 school year.

This week, the New Jersey Department of Health made a number of significant revisions to its [COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools](#). While you may review all of the changes in the linked document, I have detailed some of the most impactful updates below:

- *While in a high regional risk level (orange), schools should **no longer exclude close contacts** of individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms. The individual with COVID-19 compatible symptoms should still be excluded for the full period of quarantine or until a negative COVID-19 test is received.*
- *During the contact tracing process, the exclusion of entire cohorts, classrooms, or other groups should occur **rarely**, as long as the schools are adhering to social distancing recommendations.*

Finally, I would like to reiterate the point that we are committed to safely maintaining the availability of options for our students to participate in the learning environments that benefit them the most, whether they be in-person or full-remote. While we are faced with an evolving pandemic and a constantly-changing set of health guidelines, our district remains resolute in providing safe, healthy, and productive learning experiences.

Welcome back (again) to our in-person learners!

Sincerely,

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

Sean Adams
Superintendent of Schools