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Dear Paramus Community,

Throughout our preparation and implementation of our school reopening plans, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to be responsive to the needs of our community. We continue to receive valuable feedback regarding the benefits and challenges of teaching and learning in this new environment. Following a comprehensive review of this feedback and other important data, we are asking all parents/guardians to provide input on a proposed change to our learning schedule.

The proposed change incorporates many of the suggestions from families and teaching staff while providing a significant increase in the amount of sequential synchronous learning time for all students. For elementary students, it also allows for full-remote students to return--albeit virtually--to the classes in which they began the school year in September. However, prior to making this change, we want all families to have the opportunity to provide feedback into the scheduling proposal; therefore, please complete the Scheduling Options: Parent/Guardian Feedback form as soon as possible.

On another important note, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) elevated the COVID-19 activity level to yellow (moderate risk) for our region as of October 15, 2020. This change represents the first time since the NJDOH began providing these reports that our region has left the green (low risk) activity level. Although the district continues to implement cleaning, disinfection, and safety protocols at levels well above and beyond the standards required, this increase in the regional risk level represents a greater likelihood that school buildings and/or entire districts across our region may be ordered to transition to full-remote learning for all students if local health data continue to trend in this direction. Please keep this important fact in mind as you and your children practice the health guidelines that help keep us safe and keep our schools open: wear masks, practice social distancing, and wash hands thoroughly and frequently.

Thank you for continuing to support our schools as we look forward to welcoming all of our students back to the buildings in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Sean Adams

Superintendent of Schools