



Farmingdale Public School

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August 6, 2020

Dear Farmingdale School Families,

As you know, the Farmingdale Public School Reopening Committee has been hard at work planning for the upcoming school year while receiving updates and changing requirements from the NJDOE. We appreciate your continued feedback and support throughout this process. As per the new requirements from our Governor on August 3rd, ALL STUDENTS are now required to wear masks in school at all times (*unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health, see [Update from NJDOE, August 3, 2020](#)*). The hybrid model that we previously offered was based on the fact that students could be socially distanced and take masks off throughout the school day. Due to the Governor's new directive, this model is no longer applicable.

Based on this new guidance, the Farmingdale Reopening Committee has revised our learning model for ALL grades Pre-K through 8th to five shortened days per week.

Below, please find additional information about this model:

- **5 shortened days (8:35am-12:35pm)** -doors open at 8:25am as usual.
- In the afternoon, all students (including REMOTE ONLY) will be required to continue learning via live virtual sessions at home.
 - Students will be provided with required individualized/differentiated instruction and/or small group instruction during the afternoon remote instruction time when the in-person day is over.
- Students will be socially distanced in school (spaced 6 feet apart) whenever the class enrollment and available space allows.
- Students will **NOT** eat lunch in school. They will eat at home.
- This model provides cleaning time of the classrooms and building.
 - Allows for a deeper cleaning and disinfecting under the guidance of our regular custodial staff as outlined in the NJEA document [The Road Back Restart and Recovery Plan for Education](#).
- This model allows us to better prepare for a potential shift to full day or full remote learning as outlined in the NJDOE [Checklist for the Re-Opening of School 2020-2021](#).

We understand that this new mask requirement may change your decision as to whether your child(ren) will be participating in our REMOTE ONLY model. If that is the case, PLEASE contact the school to let us know your decision by **Monday, August 10, 2020 using [this form](#).** If you have previously notified the district via email of your Remote Only request, and wish to continue Remote Only, you do not have to notify us again.

Our **remote learning model** will include both synchronous (LIVE ZOOM Meetings) and asynchronous (students will be working at their own pace on carefully constructed learning experiences). Remote learning students will have opportunities to interact with their classmates

and teachers in the afternoon through regularly scheduled small and large group ZOOM meetings.

Pre-K, K, 1st, and 2nd grade parents- our revised learning model directly impacts you and your child as we previously planned to have your child attend full day. As a result of the Governor's directive to wear masks at all times, your child will now attend school four hours per day. Please understand as a committee, it is our intent to provide the safest environment for all our students and we realize how difficult it is for our young scholars to wear masks for a long period of time. This model addresses their developmental needs while also allowing them to continue learning at home in the afternoon without masks.

We continue to review guidance and attend daily meetings on all things pertaining to the NJDOE Road Back. We are working diligently to meet the safety, health, and educational needs of all members of our school community. We would like to invite you to attend a Farmingdale virtual BOE meeting on **Wednesday, August 12th at 7:30pm** to answer any questions that you have about our plan. This meeting will be held virtually because of a [limitation on in person events](#) set forth by the Governor.

The information on how to participate in the meeting will be on our website prior to the start of the meeting. You will also be able to send in questions to the committee prior to the start of the meeting via this [Google Form](#), also located on our website.

Thank you for your support as we navigate this difficult time and continue to put students first.

Educationally yours,
Edith Conroy