



## ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MRS. PHYLLIS ALPAUGH  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

April 13, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and you had an enjoyable and relaxing spring break with your families. While on break, we received confirmation of three new positive COVID-19 cases that I wish to share with you. All of the cases involve individuals at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. Due, however, to the logistics and timing, only those diagnosed and limited individuals will need to quarantine. As a result, in-person instruction as planned can and will continue.

As with all past Coronavirus cases, the district is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, state and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. People or individuals both in the district as well as outside of school who had contact with those diagnosed will or have been contacted directly by the Department of Health or our school nurses.

Please know that a very thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all school buildings took place while we were 100% virtual and similar practices will continue as per outlined in our district Restart and Re-entry Plan now that we have returned to campus. The school is also continuing to take extra precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and is continuing to clean frequently touched surfaces daily. The status of the situation is fluid, and we are continuing to monitor it closely.

We understand the level of concern regarding positive cases in the district especially with our return to in-person instruction this week. At the same time, we encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes properly and disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks or utensils;
- Practicing social distancing and staying 6 feet apart when possible;
- Wearing a face covering while at school;
- Continuing to monitor your health for targeted symptoms.

As always, we appreciate all your support and cooperation in adhering to the basic CDC guidelines, but also by completing your daily screenings each morning, following the directives of our school nurses, sharing pertinent information with our school offices, limiting large social gatherings and travel, and simply making good choices about your health that affect both you and the entire school community as the safety of all parties is a group effort.

Should you have any questions, please feel to reach out to your school nurse for medical concerns or your building principal for administrative issues.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis Alpaugh  
Superintendent