



ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

103 EAST MAIN STREET
ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY 07866
TEL: 973-625-8601
FAX: 973-625-7355

MRS. PHYLLIS ALPAUGH
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCEDURES FOR THE RETURN TO SCHOOL

September 1, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

As the beginning of the school year approaches, I would like to share with you the specifics of some health and safety protocols that we are putting into place that all families must adhere to as we move forward with our hybrid reopening plan. Please read this communication carefully and keep it for reference. The health and safety of our school community is a shared responsibility between home and school, and all stakeholders must do their part. We are counting on everyone to work together as safety for all parties is our number one priority. At this time, the district plans to reopen Thomas Jefferson Middle School on Tuesday, September 8th, in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Governor's Restart and Recovery Plan. Lincoln Elementary will remain virtual due to delays in referendum construction with a targeted date of October 5th for in-person instruction to resume. Needless to say, we look forward to seeing our TJ students on the 8th.

Please adhere to the following steps:

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR:

- A parent/guardian must fill out this form, certifying that the student and family will follow the district's health screening protocols. You can fill out the [certification form here](#). Even though in-person instruction is only beginning on September 8th for TJ students, we ask all families to complete and submit this form as soon as possible.

BEFORE A STUDENT ARRIVES AT THE BUS STOP OR ARRIVES ON CAMPUS EACH DAY:

- Parents should use this [COVID-19 Daily Screening for Students.pdf](#) every day to assess their child(ren). If the assessment indicates that the child cannot report to school that day, please contact the nurse's office. If the self-assessment indicates that the student can attend school, the student can proceed to the bus stop or directly to school. This screening is performed at home and does not need to be turned in to the school.

ARRIVING AT THE BUS STOP OR ON CAMPUS:

- Students must wear a CDC-approved face covering while waiting at the bus stop, on the bus, and when they arrive on campus. Face coverings should cover both the mouth and nose. Students should maintain social distance whenever possible.
- School staff will conduct a visual screening of students when they arrive on campus. Each school both Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson will have distinct arrival procedures and specific entrances and doorway designated for each grade.

DURING SCHOOL:

- Students will have their face coverings on at all times and maintain social distancing. Additional face coverings are available if needed.
- If students feel unwell during the school day, the student will be assessed by the School Nurse.
- Ill students will be respectfully isolated and a parent/guardian or emergency contact (when parents are unavailable) will be called to take the student home immediately.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROTOCOLS FOR SCHOOLS The Health Department has provided detailed protocols, as well as recommended screening forms and communication letters, for schools regarding positive cases, contact tracing, and keeping track of overall regional health. Rockaway Borough is following these protocols, which you [can access here](#).

As always, thank you so much for all your support and cooperation and let's continue to work together to facilitate a healthy and safe return to school.

Sincerely yours,

Phyllis Alpaugh



Superintendent