



Mountainside School District

1497 Woodacres Drive Mountainside, NJ 07092

908-232-3232

www.mountainsideschools.org

Janet Walling - Superintendent of Schools

Mountainside Parents/Guardians,

August 26, 2021

The countdown is on as we prepare to welcome your children back to school in less than 2 weeks! The classrooms are busy with teachers getting their rooms ready, our amazing custodial staff has been working to prepare the buildings for everyone, and our administrators are putting the finishing touches on many schedules to accommodate our return to full day instruction.

All of these aspects, and others, are aligned with the specific parameters and protocols that exist within the District's **Road Forward Plan** which will allow us to fully support academic and emotional needs, while keeping everyone's health and safety at the forefront. This plan was presented at the Board of Education meeting on August 24th and can be found here: [Mountainside Road Forward - Fall 2021](#). You can also view my presentation on our [YouTube recording](#) beginning at 1:24:30. Please review this presentation carefully as it contains quite a bit of detailed information that will help your child be prepared for the start of school and to have a smooth transition back. This plan remains subject to change based on any updated health guidance or mandates we receive.

You may find the information on these slides to be especially helpful:

- Slide 4 -- Face Masks: **As per Governor Murphy's [Executive Order # 251](#), face masks are required for all students, staff, and visitors when they are indoors, regardless of their vaccination status.**
- Slide 5 - Physical Distancing / Close Contact
- Slide 7 -- Lunch / Recess Structure
- Slide 16 - Exclusion: This slide is a reminder of our exclusion and quarantine timelines. *Please note that our region is currently back in the "orange" zone and therefore a 14 day quarantine, without a test out option for close contacts, must be enforced*
- Slide 17 - Quarantine Remote Instruction: All students are expected to attend school in person for the 2021-2022 school year. Remote instruction will **ONLY** be provided to students who test positive for COVID, or are required to quarantine due to exposure.

Other Important Reopening Details and Dates:

- **Genesis Student Information System**: The moment everyone is waiting for is here!! **The Genesis Parent Portal will open tomorrow morning, Friday, August 27th. An email will be sent from Genesis to all parent/guardian email addresses that we have on file with detailed information and a login/password for the Parent Portal.** Once you are logged into the system, you will be able to electronically sign various important beginning of the year forms and then access information for your child including **Your child's homeroom teacher/assignment and middle school schedules.**
 - **If you do not receive an email by 9:00 am, please check your spam folder and then contact support@mountainsideschools.org with your student's name and your contact information for assistance.**
- The building principals will be sharing further details and information in the coming days regarding PEAK-3 class visitations and other opening details.

The "Road Forward" may have some unexpected turns, but together, with a focus on the health and safety of our staff and students, the Mountainside School District will continue to deliver meaningful experiences for all. We've got this!

Enjoy the remaining days of summer and we will see everyone on September 8th.

Janet Walling