



# Mountainside School District

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[www.mountainsideschools.org](http://www.mountainsideschools.org)

**Mrs. Janet Walling – Superintendent of Schools**

June 16, 2021

Mountainside Parents/Guardians & Staff:

Believe it or not, we are down to the last 3 days of this incredible school year! Recently, someone asked me what I felt made us so successful in providing and maintaining the level of in person learning that we had this year. Without a hesitation, I responded --“It is 100% a reflection of the cohesiveness of the Mountainside community!” We could not have accomplished as much as we did and made it through the full year in this format without the input, suggestions, and support from the Board of Education, staff, parents, and students themselves. From our reopening committees last summer, to the day-to-day logistics and implementation of programming, to the incredible flexibility that was needed time and time again, every one of you has played an integral role in educating the children of Mountainside. While simple words cannot fully express how much it is appreciated I must say a huge **THANK YOU!!** You all deserve the credit for our success, and I look forward to working with everyone as we plan for a successful next year.

As we look towards next year, the District has created a preliminary Reopening Plan as required by the NJDOE. This plan is required to be submitted to the state by June 24th, was created within the required parameters, and has taken into consideration input received through the recent staff and parent surveys. Parents and staff are welcome to provide additional feedback on the plan by Monday, June 21st, using the survey link found below. **This plan was created in accordance with current Executive Orders and NJDOH / NJDOE guidelines as they pertain to school operations and is subject to change. The District will continue to adjust our plan throughout the summer to address any changes or additional flexibility that may be allowed. It is our goal to provide all students and staff with as “normal” of a school day as possible while maintaining and prioritizing everyone’s health and safety.**

- NJDOE required [Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan](#) (must be submitted by 6/24/21) A *Spanish version can also be found on the District website under “Mountainside’s Road Forward Plan for 2021-2022” tab*
- [Mountainside Road Forward Plan - Fall 2021](#) -- This presentation aligns with the NJDOE required plan, and also provides specific details related to day-to-day operations and programming within our school district.
- [Feedback Survey](#) - open until June 21, 2021

I would like to share a few additional reminders and thoughts:

- All school-owned Chromebooks that have been loaned to students in grades PEAK-5 must be returned to the schools as soon as possible. They may be sent in with your child over the next 2 days, or brought to the lobby of either school by June 25th. Please be sure to return any chargers or cases that you may have as well.
- Best of luck to our 8th graders as they graduate from Deerfield to begin the next part of their educational journey. We are so proud of what you have already accomplished and know that your future is limitless!
- On behalf of the entire district, I would like to thank Mrs. Kim Richards for her 11 years of dedication to the staff and students of Deerfield and wish her the best in her retirement! Her presence will be missed, but her impact will last a lifetime.

I wish every one of you a restful and nice summer vacation. Please take time to relax, recharge, and spend time with those who matter most to you. We will see you when school reopens on September 8th!

*Janet Walling*

