



Egg Harbor Township Schools

www.eht.k12.nj.us

Administration Offices

13 Swift Drive

Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

February 22, 2021

Dear EHT School Community,

As we move toward the end of February, I wanted to take this opportunity and provide you with information regarding the “EHT Road Forward” plan to move toward additional in-person learning opportunities for students.

During the last two weeks, building principals conducted School Pandemic Response Team meetings with their stakeholders to discuss our current, hybrid model and ideas for increasing in-person learning time. The information and ideas gathered from these meetings were shared with the District Pandemic Response Team on Friday, February 19th. The District Pandemic Response Team participants included all district administrators, the EHTEA Union President, and our school physician, Dr. Petrucci, with special guests Dr. Manish Trivedi and Ms. Gemma Downham, medical professionals from Atlanticare’s Infectious Disease Division and four board members.

The District Pandemic Response Team meeting included an overview of the timeline of events dating back to August 2020, a presentation by Dr. Trivedi and Ms. Downham of mitigation resources and innovative models for increasing in-person learning, and group collaboration of ideas for increasing in-person learning time. Dr. Trivedi and Ms. Downham, briefed the District Pandemic Team on the Coronavirus, its variants, the transmission, prevention guidance, CDC guidance, county activity level, mitigation measures, the importance of social distancing to the greatest extent practicable, wearing of masks, use of PPEs, ventilation, and hand hygiene. After hearing their presentation, we were filled with a sense of reassurance that the information provided by the doctors concurs with our knowledge and understanding of COVID-19. The presentation indeed supports our decision making process.

In case you have not followed our journey thus far, here are a few links to the Superintendent's Corner where you can find Superintendent updates, District Newsletters and Board of Education meetings and highlight videos, as well as our Road Back to School plan.

- [Superintendent Board Reports/Videos/Newsletters](#)
- [Superintendent Updates/Letters](#)

As a result of the District Pandemic Response Team Meeting, we are creating the EHT Road Forward, our plan to create more in-person learning opportunities for students K-12. We request your patience as we move forward, finalizing the plans and reviewing them with stakeholders (transportation, cafeteria, facilities, etc..) over the next few days. In order to move forward, we need accurate student data. Therefore, we will be releasing a survey via our [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#). Because this survey will be connected to a parent/guardian of an Egg Harbor Township student, this survey will be deemed relevant and reliable to our data collection and decision making for increased in-person instruction. Please note, you will always receive notification from us if and when we send out an official District survey. Surveys posted on social media sites are not official District surveys, they will not be considered by the school district. We will communicate with you directly when the survey is posted and ready for your response.

All of us in the Egg Harbor Township School Community are working hard to “Move Forward” and provide increased in-person learning opportunities for students, in a safe environment meeting the standards of the Road Back Plan, Governor Murphy’s Executive Order 175 and New Jersey Department of Health Guidance. We have been engaged in this process since August of 2020 by continuously staying abreast of the guidance that governs New Jersey public schools, following the data, and making decisions that are best for Egg Harbor Township. While we are moving forward, it is important to remind everyone of the importance of teamwork in our school community. Teamwork is defined as: *Cooperation between those who are working on a task; the willingness of a group of people to work together to achieve a common aim.* I am confident that with respect, understanding, and teamwork, our school community will come together to meet the needs of all of our students.

I look forward to working together! #EHTPride

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly A. Gruccio".

Kimberly A. Gruccio, Ed.D
Superintendent