



From the Superintendent

Ambrose F. Duckett, III

At our last Board of Education meeting on February 15, 2022, the BOE voted unanimously to follow the Governor's recommendation to transition to mask optional beginning March 7, 2022. An updated version of our return to school plan can be found on our [website](#).

This decision was made with the caveat that if numbers begin to surge, the BOE and administration would consider temporarily mandating masks for some or all of our students and staff. As always, we will continue to consult with the Department of Health and utilize data to guide our efforts. Just this past week, school districts received information from the Department of Health lifting the Federal bus mask mandate. See below:

[Effective February 25, 2022, CDC does not require wearing of masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/child care programs.](#)

To align with the March 7, 2022 date, masks on buses will be optional beginning next Monday. We are asking parents to help the school district with this transition by:

- Communicating with the school district any child who tests positive;
- Keeping your child home if they test positive. (The district will indicate for attendance purposes only: students *remote learning*, not *absent*);
- Reinforcing masking if they are coming back to school after isolation or quarantine.

As always, please continue to check our website for updates.

Parents, as the weather is getting warmer, please remember to send each of your children to school with a refillable water bottle. We currently have two filling stations and are working on securing and installing additional units.

Office of Curriculum

Linda Fulleylove

Testing dates for the state-required NJSLA assessments have been established, please see below. Make-ups will be administered the week after scheduled dates.

Assessment	Subject(s)	Grades	Testing Dates
NJ Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA)	ELA and Math	3,4,5,6,7,8	May 16-19, 2022
NJ Student Learning Assessment - Science (NJSLA-S)	Science	5 and 8	May 23-24, 2022

For more information on the NJ Student Learning Assessment parents can visit:

<https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/ForParent/>

Happenings:

ECS had a visit from some RV Performance groups last week when the chorus and band performed at an assembly for our Middle School students. The program directors spoke at length about the many opportunities for students to be involved in the Arts at RV.

Mr. Martino's AT classes participated in a virtual field trip to Lockheed Martin last Friday. Students worked collaboratively with Lockheed engineers on a coding exercise to write programs and also used CAD (computer-aided design) for a design challenge.

Middle School Science teacher Mr. Bowlby, will be at the Coriell Institute Science Fair at Camden County College on March 19th with a group of students who signed up to participate. These students will present the creative projects they have been working on for the past few months.

There are many other exciting things happening in our classrooms every day!

Dean of Students

Ray A. Robinson, Jr.

Hello Eastampton Students, Families, and Community,

I hope this Bulletin finds you and your families well as we close in on the start of spring!

I wanted to touch base with you all as we are about to have some movement in the area of discipline in our school that I would like you to be aware of.

After surveying our staff members, it has been expressed that there are a few things that we could be doing better to make the Eastampton Community School a better place for our students. The list is relatively short, but we think that the impact of these minor changes will maximize the instructional time for our students. Those changes are as follows:

1. **Cell Phones and AirPods/Headphones-** Students will no longer be allowed to have their **Cell Phone & AirPods** during the day. They will be advised to put them in their lockers at the beginning of the day and leave them there until the school day ends. If there is an emergency where you need to reach your student, please call or email your child's teacher(s) or the main office. Students caught with their cell phones during instructional time will be written up.
2. **Inappropriate use of language-** Depending on the offense, the inappropriate use of language can result in detention, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension. The items that would constitute the inappropriate use of language would be:
 - **Profanity**
 - **Obscene language**
 - **Language sexual in nature**
 - **Lewdness**
 - **Racially charged language**
3. **Disrespect-** Students are encouraged to *speak* and have conversations with their teachers here at ECS with the understanding that they are speaking with and to adults, not their peers. I feel certain that, as the Eastampton community, we can all agree with the expectation that our staff will handle your students with care and respect, and our students will be encouraged to do the same.
4. **Horseplay-** It can be too easily misunderstood whether students are playing around or if things are serious when horseplay occurs in school. For that reason, horseplay will not be tolerated.
5. **Inappropriate Use of Technology-** Students are to make sure that they are using their Chromebooks in class for instructional purposes only unless being told otherwise by their classroom teacher.

Spring is in the Air!





