



### **From the Superintendent:**

I am excited to announce, beginning May 10th all students who are currently enrolled for in-person learning will be in school five days per week. The daily schedule will remain the same. Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, students and staff will come to the building instead of learning remotely. As we try to build momentum for next year, I ask that families continue to regularly check PowerSchool and monitor your child's progress.

Another positive note is that we are currently in the process of planning field days for all in-person students. For safety reasons, the events will be modified and parents will not be able to attend. Field Day will operate with the following schedule:

- Wednesday, June 2, 2021: 6-8 Field Day from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (makeup day: June 9th)
- Thursday, June 3, 2021: K-2 Field Day from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (makeup day: June 10th)
- Friday, June 4, 2021: 3-5 Field Day from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (makeup day: June 11th)

The PTA will be providing water bottles and popsicles for the students. Special thank you to our physical education teachers for their work in planning safe, fun activities for our students.

### **CST/Special Education Update:**

- ESY for students with special needs, along with our Summer Enrichment program, will be held **July 5<sup>th</sup> – July 29<sup>th</sup>** from 8:30-12:30 (Monday through Thursday). Our current plan is for a full in-person learning model. SEL will be infused into our daily activities and schedule. Outdoor art and fitness experiences will also be offered to support student learning and peer connections. Mr. Herman and Mrs. Eagles will be sending out a Google form for teacher recommendations to compile student groupings.
- Thank you ECS staff for your support and recognition of Autism Awareness Month. We came together to color our ribbons, wear our blue, and view our awareness videos. Thank you for supporting and celebrating our students with Autism.
- Preschool is coming! Our administrative team is in the process of preparing for Eastampton's youngest learners to join our educational community. We anticipate an integrated preschool opening in the fall of 2021! Stay tuned...

### **Assistant Principal:**

- As previously noted, New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) have been canceled for the 2020-2021 school year due to clear difficulties created by the pandemic. In place of the NJSLA, administration of Start Strong assessments in fall 2021 for ELA, Math, and Science will commence during the testing window of September 13, 2021 to October 22, 2021.
- During the week of May 17th, MAP testing will take place. The Curriculum Office will relay further information regarding MAP testing in the near future.
- As we embark on the final stretch of the school year, the continuation of best practices will be necessary in order to ensure that our students finish the school year strong. If students are experiencing challenges with attendance and engagement, please continue to reach out for support. We are thankful to our teachers and support staff for applying a variety of best practices including:
  - Robust communication with families through multiple pathways
  - Implementation of student choice into the design of lessons

- Differentiation of instruction to meet varying learning styles
- Utilizing a vast array of technological tools
- Gamifying and modeling lessons
- Working with students in small groups and embedding conference time for enhanced supports

### **Notes from the Nurse's Office:**

#### **Sport Physicals 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Summer is a time that many of our students go to their doctor for their annual physical exam. You can download sport physical forms online from the ECS website (Departments/Nurse/Nurse's Office Forms/Sports Physical Packet) or pick up a Sport Physical Packet in the Main Office. It takes two weeks to process sport physicals. In order for your **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade student** to be eligible to join a fall sport, you should submit the forms to the nurse before school starts in September. We recommend you keeping a copy of the physical for your records. Sport physicals are documented on the NJ State Physical Form and are valid for 365 days. All sport physical forms must undergo an additional level of review by our school physician. Therefore, we ask that you adhere to the following deadlines to help ensure your child's physical will be cleared in time for them to try-out and participate. The deadlines for submission of sport physicals are:

- August 20, 2021
- October 20, 2021
- February 17, 2022

**Physical forms turned in after the posted deadlines are not guaranteed to be reviewed in time for the first tryout of the season.**

#### **Required 6th Grade Immunizations:**

If your **5<sup>th</sup> grade** child has not yet received the Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines, they will need to have them before they enter 6th grade. All students (including virtual learners) must be in compliance with NJ immunization regulations or they will be excluded from school in September. Check with your doctor to schedule an appointment. If your child is uninsured, please contact the nursing office for assistance to schedule the vaccinations.

#### **"I think it's just allergies":**

While we completely understand that some symptoms of seasonal/environmental allergies and some symptoms of COVID-19 are the same, please remember that we can not currently make assumptions regarding a diagnosis. While you may lean towards thinking it's just allergies, it is important to acknowledge that there is still the possibility that it could be COVID-19. Symptoms like itchy eyes, and sneezing, are not too difficult. However, multiple symptoms and especially a cough, should be evaluated further.

The bottom line remains the same. Per the current Department of Health guidelines, when your student has COVID like illness (as defined by the [Daily Health Check-In](#)), they either need a negative COVID test, or should remain at home on remote learning for ten days from symptom onset. Please do not feel overwhelmed or stressed by this. It is what it is. It simply means that COVID testing is appropriate. Being diligent is how we stop the spread, and protect our unvaccinated school population. Thankfully, COVID testing is now readily available and results are typically really quick.

Local options include:

Burlington County Health Department at RCBC  
[www.co.burlington.nj.us/1845/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information](http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/1845/2019-Novel-Coronavirus-Information)

CVS (including the drive through at Eastampton)  
[www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing?icid=cvS-home-hero1-link2-coronavirus-testing](http://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing?icid=cvS-home-hero1-link2-coronavirus-testing)

We thank you so much for all your understanding and efforts.