



**TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS**  
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February 11, 2021

Dear Toms River Regional Schools parents and families:

Our team here has continued its planning and discussions about the next phase of our #TRSafeReturn, and we've genuinely appreciated your ongoing patience and support throughout this very fluid process. Our primary focus has remained centered upon offering the most significant amount of in-person learning safely for all students, while still providing families the opportunity to select an all-virtual learning option. At this time, we are prepared to move forward with the next phase of our reopening plan.

**On Monday, March 1, all elementary schools will offer four in-person half days of instruction for all students, with Friday continuing as a virtual day of teaching and learning. Our students in grades 6-12 will shortly follow with this option beginning on Monday, March 15.**

This progression of our #TRSafeReturn plan still honors the all-virtual option for students.

As we have done since September, our plans will continue to consider the NJ Department of Education guidelines as well as those of the local health department. Guidance continues to recommend social distancing protocols where practicable. However, we recognize that the increase of in-person instructional time for students presents an additional challenge, and we must acknowledge scenarios whereby we will not be able to accommodate six feet of social distance among students. In such cases, staff and students will continue to wear the appropriate face coverings and, when appropriate, clear desk dividers will be available. Furthermore, building-level administration will continue to develop a schedule that staggers times for transitions and limits congregation and congestion within the hallways that can occur during passing time, arrival, and dismissal. District-level administration will also continue to implement stringent cleaning protocols that will serve to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Lastly, the district will follow all guidelines regarding contact tracing and continue the effective screening procedures that have been in place since the start of in-person instruction.

Below you will find the learning model selections which will be posted in the parent portal beginning at noon today. **We ask all families to make their learning model choice for each child by Tuesday, February 16.** If a model is not selected, your child will default to in-person learning.

This decision to increase in-person instruction was made carefully, collaboratively, and with the best interests of our school community in mind. I thank you once again for your continued support; I remind you to contact your child's school with any questions; and I urge you to access the parent portal as soon as possible to select your desired learning model. More information is below. All the best.



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**Learning Model Selection Form in Genesis - Due: Tuesday, February 16**

*Any subsequent change to the learning model selected below must be requested through completion of the Request to Change Learning Model form available on the [district website](#). Please note that students are limited to one change request per marking period, which must be submitted at least 10 calendar days before the student is eligible for in-person services. If a learning model is not selected for your child by Feb. 16, 2021, they will default to in-person learning.*

***Choice 1:** Full in-person learning four shortened days a week. This will entail in-person instruction for four days per week and one day of virtual learning. This choice reflects a commitment through the end of the school year that can only be changed by request, as noted above.*

***Choice 2:** Remote learning model. This includes utilizing our Google platform for live instruction, video instruction and interactive online tools five days per week from home. This choice reflects a commitment through the end of the school year that can only be changed by request, as noted above.*

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Regards,

*Thomas Gialanella*

Thomas Gialanella  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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