



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS
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To our Toms River Regional Schools parents and families:

Effective **the week of May 3, the district will be transitioning to five days a week of in-person instruction**, with Fridays no longer being fully virtual.

This decision and advancement of the #TRSafeReturn plan does not come without careful consideration and deliberation, but is also in line with our broader efforts and strategic plan toward a full return to in-person learning.

Why now? The district has made sincere, concerted, and effective efforts to foster the safest possible learning environment for staff and students. We've also helped directly facilitate and/or communicate numerous opportunities for staff members to receive a Covid-19 vaccination, and we're aware that hundreds of our staff members have, in fact, been fully vaccinated or will be by May 3. Finally, as noted, this is a necessary next step toward a full return to full-day, in-person learning, a final transition we remain hopeful to implement before the end of this school year.

We continue to monitor infection rates; remain in close consultation with our partners in health; and will-- as we have throughout this school year-- prioritize the health and safety of our staff and students when it comes to making any necessary decisions on a school-by-school basis.

While this latest transition won't be without its logistical challenges, we're convinced it's appropriate and timely, and that it honors the wishes of the overwhelming majority of our school community, and represents another hopeful step toward the return to normalcy for which we all yearn. I hope this announcement is met with the same hope and enthusiasm that I feel in making it, and I thank you for the extraordinary resilience and adaptability you've displayed throughout the past calendar year.

Regards,

Thomas Gialanella

Thomas Gialanella
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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