



**TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS**  
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September 30, 2021

To our Toms River Regional Schools staff, parents, and families:

You've surely heard much about our school district in the news and online over the past several days regarding our quarantine numbers and positive Covid cases. Hopefully, you've been able to read our [clarifying statement](#) regarding some of the erroneous and misleading reporting, and have managed to catch at least snippets of the many interviews I've conducted on the matter.

In any case, I felt it necessary to reach out and assure our school community that, contrary to what you may have heard, there is no Covid-19 "outbreak" in our district. Our numbers of cumulative positive cases and current quarantine numbers-- which are [published on our website](#) and have been throughout this pandemic, and which are updated daily-- are clearly and consistently trending *down*. As of this writing, the number of students in quarantine is 791, less than 5.5 percent of the student population, and down 28 percent overall since just last week.

There are no plans to transition to virtual learning at any school or classroom.

At no point-- as you are all aware, since we began the year with weekly mask communication-- did we not adhere to Executive Order 251, and the seven total school days during which we exercised the excessive heat exemption, masks were only optional in non-air conditioned spaces.

We're doing everything required of us, and thensome, to protect our students and staff, and quite frankly, I'm extremely proud of the job we're doing. I'm equally proud of, and grateful for, the parents who came forward to commend our district and everything we're doing to keep their children safe and in school. Thank you.

It's obviously frustrating to have invested considerable time responding to various reports, and we hope the conversation around our district and others throughout the state and country ultimately transitions back to education. In the meantime we'll continue doing everything we can to keep our students and staff safe and in school, while keeping you informed as well. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Genco  
Superintendent of Schools