



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS
THOMAS GIALANELLA
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
1144 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, NJ 08753
732-505-5500 Fax: 732-505-9330
Email: tgialanella@trschoools.com

March 23, 2021

Dear Washington Street Elementary School staff, parents and families:

After careful consideration and with guidance from the Ocean County Health Department, we've made the decision to temporarily close Washington Street Elementary School, effective tomorrow, March 24, with a planned reopening and **return to four weekly shortened days of in-person learning on Monday, April 12**. From March 24 through April 1, students and staff will work within an all-virtual model of instruction, adhering to the current daily schedule, and return to school after spring break.

Since we've been made aware of several positive cases at the school, we are making this temporary transition so that we can ensure a consistent instructional program while maintaining our top priority of keeping our Washington Street students and staff healthy and safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

I understand this is not ideal, and I acknowledge the hardships this imposes on our parents. I sympathize, sincerely. Which is why I wanted to reach out to our Washington Street School community personally to thank you for your ongoing patience and support, and to reassure you that I and everyone here-- from our school board to our maintenance staff-- are working tirelessly to ensure that your school and all of our schools continue to be the safest possible environments during this extremely challenging time.

Principal Jeff Ryan, who has done a wonderful job managing a difficult situation, and his team are available for any questions or concerns you may have, and you may contact his office at 732-505-5910. Thank you, again, for your patience, understanding, and flexibility, and please continue to be on the lookout for communication from your school throughout the next couple of weeks.

Regards,

Thomas Gialanella

Thomas Gialanella
Interim Superintendent of Schools

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