



# LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

124 Willow Drive, Little Silver, NJ 07739

Michael E. Ettore  
Superintendent of Schools

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July 31, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

I hope that this letter finds you and your family doing well. One of the many topics that was discussed earlier this week during the Board of Education meeting was the “opt out choice” that parents now have with regard to virtual learning. The guidance from the Governor allows parents to have the option to keep their child/children home for full virtual learning while COVID-19 continues. One of the procedures outlined in the Governor’s guidance is the need to have documentation from families regarding their intention to select the fully virtual option. In order to ensure that our administrative team is able to finalize our plans for September, I am requesting feedback from ALL families regarding this topic.

No later than Tuesday, August 4, 2020, the parent portal in Genesis will provide all families with a brief description of the learning choices being offered by our district. In short, these choices will be for your child/children to participate in the hybrid schedule that has been created or for your child/children to remain home for full, virtual instruction. There will be a third option for those families that have special needs students with a specific type of learning program. In addition to the summaries you will find in Genesis, there will also be a form that must be completed and submitted for each student in the district. This form will provide the district with the data that is needed to update and eventually finalize our student rosters and schedules for September. ***The forms will need to be completed by Tuesday, August 11, 2020.***

Another component included in the guidelines for districts is the need to establish timeframes for families who chose to have their child learn in the fully remote environment return to school for in-person learning. Unfortunately, there was some inaccurate information shared with the public during the Board meeting earlier this week regarding this topic. As your Superintendent, I want to ensure that correct information is being shared with our staff and families, so hopefully this letter will provide the clarity needed regarding this topic. In order to allow for the greatest degree of instructional consistency and continuity, those students that start the year fully virtual will not be permitted to return for in-person learning until the start of the second trimester.



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To be specific, the earliest return date for students who start the year on full, virtual instruction will be Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

Looking ahead, I will continue to send out updates to the parent community on a regular basis regarding our reopening plans for September. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns that need to be addressed.

Respectfully,

*Michael E. Ettore*

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