



LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Little Silver Families,

As we are about to close out the 2020-2021 school year, I wanted to take a moment to once again thank everyone in our district for all of their remarkable efforts this year. Our administrative staff did an outstanding job of providing leadership in the face of adversity. Our teachers and instructional aides demonstrated incredible creativity and dedication in preparing and implementing virtual and live lessons. Our support staff, custodians and tech team worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that our district continued to move forward. Our parents and caregivers were supportive, patient and flexible throughout the various periods of uncertainty this year. Finally, and most importantly, our students persevered through a historically challenging set of circumstances dating back to the spring of 2020. Having been faced with these challenges, it has been truly amazing to see the level of collaboration and strength from the Little Silver community.

Looking ahead to September, our district goal is to resume complete normalcy in our schools to the greatest extent possible. Assuming our Covid data continues to trend in a positive direction, and barring any unforeseen new mandates from the Governor, our intention is to start the new school year on our regular, full-day schedule in both schools. As the emergency orders from the Governor's Office come to an end, so should the guidance for wearing masks in school. Provided that districts are able to eliminate or use our discretion with this protocol, our plan will be to make masks optional for staff and students for the new school year. Additionally, the desk barriers will also be removed this summer and also be eliminated from daily use. ***In order to transition back to this type of setting, all of our summer programs will operate without barriers in place and wearing masks will be optional.***

I look forward to my continued service as your Superintendent and I am excited about being able to lead our district without the cloud of a global pandemic hanging overhead. For now, I truly appreciate all of the wonderful support I have received during my first year in the position, and I wish all of our staff, students and families a happy, healthy and relaxing summer. There is no doubt that we have all earned it!

Respectfully,

Michael E. Ettore
Superintendent of Schools