GLEN ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brett Charleston, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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November 23rd, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you are aware, the number of positive COVID-19 cases is rapidly increasing throughout Bergen County, New Jersey, and the United States. As shared in previous correspondence, our region is now in the <u>"High Risk" level per a NJDOH CALI score of 3</u>. As we continue with in-person learning in a designated "High Risk" region, **the guidance from the <u>NJDOH</u> is to treat anyone who has COVID-19-like symptoms as probable cases and quarantine any close contacts**. This increased exclusion of individuals with COVID-19-like symptoms will be problematic as it will lead to more students and staff members quarantining until the individual tests negative for COVID-19 or provides an alternate medical diagnosis.

At this time, we will maintain our current instructional model until further notice. This means that the Glen Rock Schools will continue to operate in a hybrid or AM/PM model of instruction as long as conditions in our schools and community remain safe for students and staff. As we have already seen, we may have to switch a school to all virtual instruction for one day for contact tracing. We encourage everyone to have contingency plans for such an event. Please continue to follow CDC guidelines by wearing a mask, social distancing and limiting social gatherings outside of school, as those have been the leading cause of the COVID-19 cases in our district. It is important that you continue to complete the daily pre-screening form to assist our district with monitoring symptoms and potential cases of COVID-19. Every student should have a COVID-19 questionnaire completed by a parent/guardian every day they are attending in-person instruction. Please do not send your child to school if they exhibit any of the symptoms identified on page 10 of the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for K-12 Schools. Our staff will send your child to the nurse if any visible symptoms are present, regardless of the completed COVID-19 questionnaire and you will be required to pick your child up immediately.

Our goal continues to keep the schools open safely and follow our hybrid and/or AM/PM schedule as long as conditions permit because we believe an in-person learning environment is better for student learning. As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant in your approach to dealing with this health concern. It is critical that those who are asked to quarantine do so. In addition, we must all be cognizant of

the repercussions for not adhering to <u>Executive Order #196</u>. We must all do our part to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and community. Our actions today can have a positive impact on school, winter and spring sports, activities and milestone events, such as prom and graduation, for the remainder of the school year.

If you have any questions about COVID-19 symptoms, or any other concerns for you or your child, please consult your physician. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your child's school nurse and/or principal.

We are Glen Rock Schools!

Sincerely,

Britt Charlester

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