

Hackettstown High School

599 Warren Street ♦ Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Phone: 908-852-8150 ♦ www.hackettstown.org ♦ Fax: 908-852-6214

Kyle S. Sosnovik
Principal

Lena J. Wasylyk
Assistant Principal

July 16, 2020

Dear Hackettstown High School Parents/Guardians:

A few weeks ago, the district sent out a survey to parents to gather feedback on which hybrid school schedule they would prefer. The results were tabulated and can be found on the district website. During the week of July 6th, each school met with their Reopening Task Force to discuss the scheduling options outlined in the parent survey. On July 13, 2020, the administrators met with the Community Relations Committee, composed of township officials, chief of police, parents, BOE members, district administration and community members, to discuss the result and the district's re-entry plan. All feedback was taken into consideration and final decisions were made and presented to the Board of Education for approval on July 15, 2020.

Each school in the district is planning for a hybrid schedule and a full virtual schedule. The full virtual schedule will be discussed at a later date and will only come into effect if the Governor or Department of Health mandate that we close our buildings. For us to plan appropriately, we need to know your plans as parents. As a parent, you have three options. You can send your child to school, you can request virtual instruction or you can homeschool your child. The three options are very different so we would like to outline them for you so you may make an informed decision.

Hybrid Option: A-B Rotating Block Schedule

The High School is moving to an "A-B Block Schedule" for 2020-21. Four classes will meet on "Day A"; and four classes will meet on "Day B".

- Students will be split into two cohorts (groups) for safe social distancing. On any given day one cohort will be in the building receiving in-person instruction; the other cohort will be at home learning virtually.
- There will be four 60+ minute periods with 10 minutes of pass time in between.
- Student lunches will only be available to students on free/reduced lunch plans. Student lunches may be picked up as students exit the building to be eaten at home.
- Staff will be building-based for a full day.
- After lunch, staff will use the afternoon to plan, instruct, assess and communicate with students who were learning virtually that day.
- We recognize, in advance, that a certain number of classes cannot meet safe social distancing requirements, even with 50% of the students not in the building. At this point in time, we believe that we can maintain safe social distancing in approximately 90% of the classes. Some classes will be taught in "lecture hall" format in



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either the auditorium or gymnasiums in order to maintain safe social distancing with larger groups of students.

- All school staff, students and visitors will be required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.

Virtual Instruction Option: The Governor has mandated that it is the district's responsibility to get all students back into the building but he is also allowing parents the right to keep their children home in the Fall of 2020. The district will provide online instruction and in this environment your child will receive virtual assignments, projects and assessments. The student will meet with a certified staff member for approximately one hour a day through Google Meets. Your child will be assigned content based teachers who are responsible for lesson plans, assignments and assessments. The virtual teacher might be a different teacher, as the content teacher will be instructing in person. If the district implants a full virtual instruction platform, your child will join the content teacher schedule.

Homeschool Option: This option requires the parent to sign their child(ren) out of the Hackettstown School system. The district is not responsible to provide instruction or share curricular materials once the child has left the district. Parents may re-enroll their child at any point in time. The student will follow normal transfer guidelines and may be assessed upon re-entry for grade/class placement.

Please click on the link below to fill out the form indicating your choice. It is imperative that we hear from every parent so we can plan appropriately and effectively.

<https://forms.gle/3RpSRBaT9aqfbdPJ9>

If you have multiple students in the district, please use the link in each building's letter as they are building based forms. You need to fill out one form for every student. If you have any questions about the choices or need clarification please feel free to contact me at ksosnovik@hackettstown.org

These are such difficult times but together we can make sure our students are receiving the education they deserve.

Sincerely,

Kyle S. Sosnovik, Principal

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