



The School District of Jenkintown
West and Highland Avenue
Jenkintown, PA 19046-2698

Dr. Jill A. Takacs
Superintendent
(215) 885-3722

November 19, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Students,

I am sure you have been inundated with the abundance of information on the media, and from me, regarding the latest updates regarding COVID-19 and its impact on our community. Daily cases are increasing rapidly in our county and our Borough, which is necessitating our transition to 100% virtual instruction for the next two weeks, beginning Monday, November 23rd. To-date, we have had three staff members test positive. In addition, we were notified late last night that an employee from one of our vendors was diagnosed yesterday, November 18, 2020, with lab-confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19). The individual reported to the district that they were symptomatic on Monday evening, November 16, 2020 and has not been in school since last Monday, November 16, 2020. This information was reported to the Montgomery County Office of Public Health (OPH) immediately and contact tracing was done to determine if any individuals were in close contact with the infected staff member. There were no individuals who were considered close contacts. Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all associated areas were performed.

None of these cases have resulted in transmission at school. Nevertheless, we must remain diligent in our efforts to combat this virus. We are hoping to return students to our hybrid model beginning on Monday, December 7th. During these two-weeks, sports practices will be suspended as ordered by the Montgomery County Office of Public Health. Between December 7th and December 23rd, we plan on resuming practices for conditioning and individual drills if we are permitted to do so, with the hope to have contact play and competitions after the holiday recess.

During our two-week transition to virtual, and for any future transitions when we are not in our hybrid model, we will be serving meals according to the following schedule: Breakfast 7:15 AM – 8:15 AM and Lunch 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Meals will be distributed outside the rear of our building on Highland Ave each day. All children in our Borough 18 years of age and under are eligible to receive meals free of charge. Please drive around the rear circle and we will bring the meals out to your vehicle.

The School District of Jenkintown is an equal opportunity employer and provider

In light of the current health crisis, we recognize that this 2-week decision for 100% virtual instruction is necessary to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 and in fact, may assist us in staying open throughout the winter months. However, please be assured that we will continue with our model of direct instruction in all classrooms K-12. Our teachers will have full access to all educational resources during this time period.

We have experienced much success in keeping our doors open. As I mentioned in my previous letter, this has been possible due to the extraordinary efforts of our students, families, and staff. We implore you to keep up your vigilance and conscious efforts as we head into the winter months.

Wishing everyone good health.

Stay safe and be well,

Jill A. Takacs, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools