



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

Dr. Jill A. Takacs  
Superintendent  
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December 15, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Students,

At our Board of Education meeting last night, the Board of School Directors voted to remain virtual for the week after the winter holiday break from January 4<sup>th</sup> through January 8<sup>th</sup>. As you are aware, the Montgomery County Office of Public Health ordered schools to remain in a virtual model of instruction for two weeks surrounding our Thanksgiving recess. This pause from our hybrid model assisted us in determining if staff or students were symptomatic, or needed to quarantine as a result of exposure from Covid-19 during the Thanksgiving holiday.

The metrics we have used to-date focus on the **county** incident rate per 100K residents and the **county** positivity rate. If a county reaches a 10% positivity OR 100 incidents per 100K residents, then the county is considered in “substantial spread.” As of 12/12/20, the 7-day average for the incident rate in Montgomery County is 424.11 and the positivity rate is 12.13%. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> week in a row that Montgomery County has been in substantial spread.

We have been fortunate to keep our doors open for the majority of this school year and are committed to do so as much as possible. Furthermore, as of today, we have not had any linked transmission in school. At this time the administration feels that remaining virtual for the first week in January provides us the best chance to continue with our hybrid model throughout the remainder of the winter months. We understand that this may present a hardship for some families, which is why we are making this decision as soon as possible. We fully intend to return to our hybrid model beginning Monday, January 11, 2021. This includes our extension program for our kindergarten and first grade students.

We wish you and your family good health during this holiday season. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this most difficult time.

Stay safe and be well,

Jill A. Takacs, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

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