



Rochelle Park School

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Dear School Community Members,

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) released a COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix that identified four levels of risk, *Low* (green), *Moderate* (yellow), *High* (orange), *Very High* (red), based on a COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI). Within this guidance document (link below), schools are mandated to close once a region reaches a *Very High* (red) CALI rating. Schools may also “consider fully remote learning,” in coordination with our local health department, once a particular region reaches *High Risk* (orange).

The NJDOH released the weekly COVID-19 Activity Level Report, (CALI report link below), which indicates that our region (Northeast) is currently at *High Risk*. Our region’s *percent positivity* has been increasing and it is anticipated that these numbers will continue to rise through the holiday season.

In addition, as you are aware, the district has had to implement fully remote learning due to recent incidences of COVID-19 cases among members of our school community. There has been close, consistent communication with the Bergen County Department of Health (BCDOH) to assess the status and needs of the school district. Based upon the current information from the NJDOE and the BCDOH, Rochelle Park School District will continue implementing the current fully remote learning platform through Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

Please know and trust that this decision was made out of necessity, in order to best protect the health, safety, and well-being of all members of our school community. The district is currently examining implementation of a new schedule that would best meet the students’ needs for this extended remote learning period. The current hybrid model schedule will remain in place until the new schedule is ready to be shared. Ample notice of a new schedule will be provided so as to allow time for making adjustments to your daily routines.

I will continue to communicate with you as plans develop and required changes ensue, as this is an evolving process. While nothing about these times has been familiar we must maintain awareness that we are all going through experiences never imagined. Through this awareness may we remain mindful of ways to support and uplift one another, take care of each other, and exercise patience and understanding. The district’s services include resources and supports for all members of our community, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sue DeNobile

Dr. DeNobile, Superintendent

NJDOE Guidance document:

https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts_K12Schools.pdf

NJ DOH CALI report: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/>