



VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Rolling Hills Primary School
P.O. Box 769/60 Sammis Road, Vernon, NJ 07462
Phone: 973-764-2784 Fax: 973-764-3284 Web: www.vtsd.com
Stewart Stumper, Ed.D., Principal

August 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe, healthy and enjoying the summer break! The Parent Portal has now been opened and you may now access your child/children's bus and homeroom teacher information as well as which rotational day your child is scheduled to attend school. Please take a moment to verify that this information is correct by clicking on the following link [Blue and Gold Schedule](#). Please understand that we are unable to honor requests to change teams at this time due to balancing class sizes and social distancing.

I look forward to seeing your child in September. Although there will be no traditional 2nd grade orientation, we have uploaded a short virtual orientation for our 2nd grade students [RH Orientation Video](#). Also, you can click the following link for our reopening podcast. [RH Reopening Podcast](#)

Although our first day of school will be Tuesday, September 8th, Rolling Hills will be hosting a virtual Back-to-School Night on Friday, September 4. Any time after 5pm you will be able to go into each Schoology class where you will find each teachers' BTSN presentation. During the presentation, you will learn about your teacher and classroom expectations. In addition, there will be information on how each class will be organized whether your child is a Hybrid Learner or an Exclusively Virtual Learner. The teachers' contact information will also be available for any questions. Please note that the 2nd and 3rd grades will be following a team house model. You may refer to the Rolling Hills Digital Backpack on the VTSD website for specific Learning Teams and supply list information.

I hope that you consider being active with the Rolling Hills School and Community Association. Our first School and Community Association (SCA) meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, September 16th at 9:45 am. Until further notice, our SCA meetings will be held via Zoom. More information will be forthcoming from the SCA on how to log in and join. Information about the SCA is on the district website at www.vtsd.com. You will also find information related to your child's school at this website-click on Rolling Hills School for more detailed information.

All Vernon Township Schools will be operating on a compressed day schedule for the 1st marking period. Rolling Hills' students riding the bus will be arriving at 9:05 am and will have their temperatures checked prior to entering the school. Students riding the bus home will be dismissed from school at approximately 1:10 pm and buses will depart the driveway around 1:15 pm. Please allow for time adjustments as students become familiar with the routine. Parent drop off and pick up will be handled a little differently to comply with social distancing guidelines. Please be aware that all 3rd grade students are requested to be dropped off between 9:00 am - 9:15 am and 2nd grade students are requested to be dropped off between 9:15 am - 9:30 am. Third grade students who are being picked up will be dismissed from the main entrance at 1:00 pm and 2nd grade students will be dismissed at 1:10 pm. All social distancing guidelines will be in effect during drop off and pick up times. We hope that everyone will do their best to comply with these procedures. Please be reminded that if you will be picking up your student for any reason and they normally take the bus, please notify the school via the parent portal prior to 12:00 pm or send in a note with your child to be given to their homeroom teacher. **All Primary School students should be supervised at their assigned bus stop by a parent or an adult and face masks need to be worn both at the bus stop and on the bus at all times. Primary School children should never be left unattended.** As a reminder, please be sure to arrive at your assigned bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to your scheduled pick up time. As per the Transportation Office, it is suggested that you check the parent portal prior to the first day of school to confirm your child's bus number and pick-up time. Please contact the Transportation Department at 973-764-4344 as soon as possible should any changes need to be made to your child's bus stop.

During a compressed schedule, traditional lunches will not be available; however, students will be afforded the opportunity to obtain a "Grab and Go" breakfast in the morning and/or a "Grab and Go" lunch at dismissal time. Please click on the

following link for more information on Sodexo's policy and procedures for "Grab and Go" breakfast and lunch. [Sodexo Welcome Letter](#) Students may bring a snack to school; but no student lunches are to be brought in and lunch will not be served. Also, in adhering to COVID19 guidelines and recommendations, the **VTSD has decided not to allow items to be brought into school for any birthday or special holidays.** This includes food items, crafts, books, etc.

Until further notice students are required to wear a face-covering/mask while entering a school bus, being transported on a school bus, departing a school bus and at all times while in school unless they are given direct guidance by an administrator, faculty member, or nurse to remove the covering. Face coverings will be constructed of solid fabric cloth that provides full coverage of a person's mouth and nose. Face coverings should not cover a person's face above the nose, nor restrict visibility.

Face coverings with any design or symbol must be school appropriate and consistent with our current district dress code, Policy/Regulation 5511.

Please note that consistent with The New Jersey Department of Education guidance on face coverings, that while all students are required to wear face coverings, exceptions include students with a documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an IEP that precludes the use of a face covering. Consistent with this guidance, please be aware there may be students present in school buildings and on district transportation who are unable to wear face coverings.

For more information on face coverings and complete list of exceptions please refer to:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/reopening/updates/docs/RestartUpdateFacecoverings080320.pdf>

During the school day, visitors will not be permitted into the building. Parents/guardians dropping off items will be asked to leave them in the main entrance lobby, labeled with your child's first and last name and homeroom teacher name, a member of the response team will deliver them to the classroom.

There is no doubt that this year will be unlike any other and you will be hearing the terms Virtual Learning, Hybrid Learning and Blended Learning.

Blended Learning - The blended learning model is a teaching methodology that is done in the classroom and/or online. Blended learning combines classroom learning with online learning, in which students can control the time, pace, and place of their learning.

- Blended Learning is a fusion of using online learning tools and traditional teaching methodology. With blended learning, teachers are not replaced by digital courseware such as SumDog, Raz Kids, Newsela, or IXL, because teachers are still the primary drivers of the learning experience for students.
- With Blended Learning, there must be a direct connection between the content being taught and students' digital work. In fact, this model creates an opportunity for teachers to explore new and engaging teaching methods that can provide students with access to a great deal of content at their own pace of study.
- Blended learning has a direct connection between the content being taught

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office. Enjoy the remainder of the summer and we look forward to working with your child and watching them learn and grow.

Sincerely,

Stewart Stumper

Stewart Stumper, Ed.D
Principal

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