



VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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November 20, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

After consultation with the Sussex County Department of Public Health Nursing, we are writing this letter to inform you that the Vernon Township School District **will be on virtual instruction from just after the Thanksgiving Holiday through January 18, 2021.** On Tuesday, January 19, 2021, in-person instruction will resume for our students as long as it is safe to do so. With a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases, the use of virtual instruction will be utilized to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. **Keep in mind there will be no instruction from Thursday, December 24, 2020 through Friday, January 1, 2021, due to Winter Recess.** Monday, November 23 is an in-person learning day for students on the Blue Team. They should bring home their belongings needed for learning through January. Tuesday, November 24 is an in-person learning day for students on the Gold Team. They should bring home their belongings needed for learning through January.

The Sussex County Department of Public Health Nursing is advising schools to consider utilizing virtual instruction when Sussex County reaches code "orange" which reflects a high rate of infection for COVID-19.

While this decision has been reached through much consternation, conflict, and concern, the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases without detailed deployment of a vaccine will continue to negatively impact the health of our students, families and staff.

We firmly believe that students belong in school, learning from teachers and peers and we will continue to work toward five-day-a-week instruction before the end of the school year, as long as it is safe to do so.

We will continue to keep you informed of changes to our schedule.

Sincerely,

Karen D'Avino

Charles McKay

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Superintendent of Schools

Charles McKay, D.Litt.
Assistant Superintendent