



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Karen D'Avino
Superintendent of Schools
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Dear Vernon School District Families,

The end of the 2019-2020 school year was like no other. Each of our schools found unique and special ways to honor students as we continued to learn virtually and celebrate while maintaining social distancing. The beginning to the 2020-2021 school year will also have unique challenges.

On Friday, Governor Murphy released his reopening plan for New Jersey's Schools. Detailed information can be found [here](#). The State plan allows for local districts to customize their reopening plans to meet the needs of students, families, and their communities. Although there will be challenges in reopening come September, I am grateful that the Vernon reopening plan will support Vernon students and their needs. Over the last five weeks many skilled professionals in the Vernon School District worked on the District Reopening Committee. Some key stakeholders were school nurses, administrators, teachers, technology professionals, security, food service, transportation, and maintenance personnel to name a few. This committee worked hard to create scenarios for reopening. For podcasts and overviews of those scenarios as presented to the Board of Education in June, please click [here](#).

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank our families. We received over 1500 responses to our parent survey that was distributed to our community. This information will be invaluable as we begin the arduous process of creating our district reopening plan, now that we have received guidance from the State. In the coming weeks, the district will work closely with both county and state officials to ensure that our plan complies with any requirements or recommendations set forth by the State of New Jersey, Department of Education, Department of Health, or other agencies we are required to work with.

Please know that the health, safety, wellness, and education of our students and faculty is paramount. We are working diligently to provide a plan that allows for safety and security as well as flexibility. I understand that our community has parents who are essential workers, other parents and families who may be facing immune compromised situations, and even others who need our schools to reopen so they may resume regular employment. All of these needs, as well as the needs of our students will be considered when our district reopening plan is provided to our Vernon families. Rest assured that our school families will receive detailed information of the Vernon School District Reopening plan over the summer with ample time to make any decisions as they might pertain to your child's education in our district in September. Thank you for your continued support through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Karen D'Avino

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