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Dear Mount Laurel School Families,

We have been working in high gear to get our reopening plans in place according to the numerous guidelines and health and safety measures outlined for NJ schools. We have been tasked to ensure that we meet the standards for establishing safe and healthy conditions for learning. We take this task very seriously.

The conditions for learning that we must establish in our plan, according to the NJDOE's Restart and Recovery Plan for Education:

must not only address students' and educators' basic physical safety needs, but also the social and emotional and environmental factors that can impact educators' capacity to teach and students' capacity to learn. (p.8)

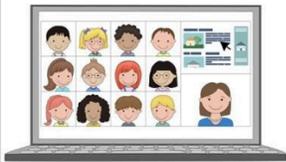
Of course, we want all our students to be back in school along with all our teachers, but that is not possible at this time. We have developed an instructional framework that strikes a balance between the need for students to return for in-person instruction and reopening our schools safely. We believe our framework achieves this objective.

Key questions we considered in the development of our schedule and instructional framework were:

- Given that we do not have unlimited human resources, how do we use the talents of our staff to deliver effective services to all our students?
- What factors in a hybrid model of in-person and remote learning will provide our students with high quality instruction?
- How do we incorporate the lessons we learned and your feedback from our closure to create enhanced learning conditions for students for both in school and remote learning?
- How do we make in-person and remote instruction work together to help our students achieve academic success?

Once again, we believe we have answered these questions by developing a schedule with an overall instructional framework in mind. Students will be assigned to Cohorts as shown in the table below. School principals are developing class lists so we can let you know your child or children's Cohort assignment as soon as possible.

Reopening Schedule for September 2020

Monday/Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday/Friday
Cohort A 4 Hour In-Person Session	ALL COHORTS ON REMOTE LEARNING 	Cohort B 4 Hour In-Person Session
Cohort B Remote Learning		Cohort A Remote Learning
Cohort C 4 Hour In-Person Session		Cohort C 4 Hour In-Person Session
Cohort D(digital) Full-Time Remote Learning		

We are grouping students in **Cohort A** together for in-person instruction two days in a row on Mondays and Tuesdays, while **Cohort B** receives remote learning on those days. **Cohort B** will receive in-person instruction for two days in a row on Thursdays and Fridays and receive remote learning on the other days.

All Cohorts will receive remote learning on Wednesdays. This will allow for deep cleaning between each Cohort's attendance and reduce exposure for staff and students. In addition, Wednesday's remote learning schedule will be different from the remote learning provided on the other days of the week. It will be the schedule our schools will follow in the event schools are ordered to close again due to COVID 19.

Cohort C is reserved for special populations of students, like students with IEPs, those who attend special class programs or preschoolers with disabilities. Students will be assigned to this Cohort based on their IEP needs and via child study team procedures.

Cohort D is reserved for students whose parents/guardians opt them out of in-person instruction in lieu of a full remote learning option.

We are reviewing the NJDOE's guidelines for the full remote learning option and will be sending out a parent/guardian registration survey form this week for those wishing to sign up. Along with this registration survey, parents will be required to sign off on a number of acknowledgements about their choice. All parents/guardians will be given information about how to transition from the full remote learning option to the hybrid model or vice versa.

We wanted to provide you this information as soon as possible, so you can plan accordingly. We have provided this scheduling information two full weeks prior to the NJDOE recommended timeline for your benefit.

We are continuing to develop our protocols for our school reopening plan related to the critical areas of health and safety, facilities cleaning practices, arrival and dismissal procedures for students and visitors, daily health screenings for staff and students, contact tracing, food services, transportation, and the necessary personal protective equipment for schools.

If you have any individual questions about your child, school or the schedule for September, please reach out to your Principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. George J. Rafferty,

Superintendent of Schools

Mount Laurel Township School District