



Roger León
Superintendent

Weequahic High School

Andre Hollis, Principal



August 7, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the very unique 2020-2021 school year at **Weequahic High School!** I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health and spirits. I want to thank you for your continued collaboration and diligence in supporting the success of our students. An unexpected global pandemic has forced us to think creatively, communicate in unique ways, and has now brought us closer as a school community. I am so proud of the collaboration, hard work, and dedication that has been exhibited by all of you. While we continue to face many challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the civil unrest in this nation, one important fact remains true--the residents of our great city of Newark are resilient and possess the grit necessary to overcome any challenges we face. **At this time, I would also like to introduce our new Parent Liaison, Ms. Barbara DeNose.**

On behalf of the staff, we are extremely excited to begin the process of restoring normalcy for our students. I know together we will ensure both remote and in-person learning models for the children are of high quality and are aligned with success for all students. Our staff is looking forward to a year filled with a variety of learning experiences and new beginnings. In order to protect the health and safety of all stakeholders and to promote maximum success, we need your support now more than ever to ensure the CDC, NJ state and Newark district guidelines are followed as we designed the school reopening plans.

Please read the following information carefully:

- The first day of school is **Tuesday, September 8, 2020** (more information regarding procedures for this day is forthcoming)
- Learning will take place in two formats:
 - Remote learning: This will occur based on parental request and individual student needs. In order to select this option, you must complete the consent form via School Mint/Newark Enrolls website--<https://newarkenrolls.schoolmint.net/signin>).
 - In-person learning: There will be a maximum of 10 students per classroom. In order to adhere to state and district guidelines regarding class sizes, the number of days per week, students will attend in-person learning will be determined based on the total number of parents requesting this option. ***Students beginning with in-person learning will remain with that process until school eventually fully reopens for all students.***
- The online lunch application system is available. Please begin completing the lunch application for the 2020-21 SY now.
 - Note: It is imperative that all parents/guardians complete a lunch application for his/her child. This applies to all parents, including those who will be sending lunch from home and those who have opted for virtual learning.
- Since information is changing rapidly, we will be scheduling a virtual Q & A session for parents in the coming weeks. (If Applicable write something to this effect) We want to ensure you are fully informed on the reopening process, and your needs are being met. Please continue to check our school website (nps.k12.nj.us/WEQ) and our school's FaceBook page (www.facebook.com/IndianPrideOfficial) here for more information as we will be updating them regularly. I will also be communicating through Robo Calls. **If you would like to update your phone number, please visit our website and** update your contact information (email, telephone



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number, and address) on School Mint/Newark Enrolls website--
<https://newarkenrolls.schoolmint.net/signin>)

- Parents/Visitors will not be permitted to enter the school building until further notice. In the event that a parent/guardian needs to pick up their student, we ask that you contact the school ahead of time so that we can facilitate getting the student to the door, where a staff member will greet you and have you sign out the student at the door. Parents/guardians must also bring a valid ID in order to pick up their child.
- Everyone reporting to the school building and school grounds (this includes student drop off and pick up) is required to wear face covering and follow CDC guidelines for social distancing, 6 ft. apart, at all times to protect the safety of everyone. Signage will be displayed around the school to direct the flow of traffic.

Face Covering and Uniforms are mandatory: All students reporting to the school building and conducting in-person learning are required to wear a face covering at all times, and students must be in uniform every day. Uniform code is as follows: Wearing a face mask is **REQUIRED** for everyone while on school or district grounds.

School Uniforms: Clogs, flip-flops, open toe shoes or slippers are not permitted.

Arrival Locations:

- 9th grade Entrance
 - 279 Chancellor Ave
 - Procedure-Line up socially distant, COVID questionnaire, wash hands, sanitize feet and proceed to homeroom class.
- 10th grade Entrance
 - 279 Chancellor Ave
 - Procedure- Procedure-Line up socially distant, COVID questionnaire, wash hands, sanitize feet and proceed to homeroom class.
- 11th grade Entrance
 - 190 Goldsmith Ave
 - Procedure- Procedure-Line up socially distant, COVID questionnaire, wash hands, sanitize feet and proceed to homeroom class.
- 12th grade Entrance
 - 190 Goldsmith Ave
 - Procedure-Line up socially distant, COVID questionnaire, wash hands, sanitize feet and proceed to homeroom class.
- **Cleaning/Sanitizing:** Increased frequency of cleaning all surfaces, foaming hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building and in every classroom, touchless dispensers will be available in all restrooms.
Signs will be posted throughout the building with reminders about hand washing and social distancing.



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- **Orientation Week:** This takes place August 24, 2020 to August 28, 2020. All parents/guardians will receive an email on Monday, August 10, 2020 inviting them to the virtual orientation.
 - **Locker Clean-Out Chromebook Distribution:** *Practicing CDC, NJ State and Newark district guidelines*, students will be able to clean out their lockers and pick up a Chromebook (if needed) on the following dates:
 - 9th grade- August 20, 2020 10:00am-12:00pm
 - 10th grade- August 19, 2020 10:00am-12:00pm
 - 11th grade- August 18, 2020 10:00am-12:00pm
 - 12th grade- August 17, 2020 10:00am-12:00pm
 - **Back to School Night will be conducted virtually this year and it will take place on September 24, 2020 6pm-8pm.** This is your opportunity to meet your child's teachers (virtually), and to learn what their academic curriculum and goals will be for the school year. More information on how this will be carried out is forthcoming.
 - **Newark Public School's Re-Opening Plan:** Parents, it is imperative that you take time to review this plan as it contain very important details about school re-opening. <https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/covid-19-resources/newarks-reopening-plan-2020-2021/>

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 973-705-3903 or email me directly at ahollis@nps.k12.nj.us

Educationally yours,

Andre Hollis

Principal