



Nutley Public Schools

315 Franklin Ave.
Nutley, NJ 07110

Dr. Julie Glazer, Superintendent
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September 2, 2021

Dear Nutley Families,

I hope this letter finds you well, safe, healthy and not struggling too much with the aftermath of last night's storm. I am hopeful you are able to enjoy the last days of summer vacation.

The staff has returned to the district and is anxiously awaiting the return of our students for full-day in-person instruction. Please know that none of the schools in the district appear to have any significant damage and we are all excited to welcome your child back to school beginning **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**. Student schedules have been posted in the Realtime Parent Portal. In addition, the Parent Screening Agreement tool that **must** be completed prior to the start of school is also posted.

Parent Portal: <https://www.fridayparentportal.com/nutley>

Please note the CDC recommended travel quarantine guidelines: <https://tinyurl.com/Travel-Quarantine>

Your building Principal has provided drop off and pick up times and locations, and school specific information including about lunch and any necessary supplies. Fresh lunch will be provided to all students who eat in school free of charge by Pomptonian Food Services through June, 2022, in accordance with the grant the district received through the US Department of Agriculture. There will not be a choice of options, but the menu of daily meals will be posted. In addition, students may bring their lunch to eat at school. Other lunch options at the elementary and high school level have been communicated by the schools.

On August 6, 2021, Governor Murphy issued [Executive Order 251](#) directing that "All students, educators, staff, and visitors, will be **REQUIRED** to wear masks inside school buildings, regardless of vaccination status." As a reminder, neck gaitors, bandanas, or face shields alone are not acceptable face coverings. Face masks are the responsibility of the individual student and teacher to have and use throughout the school day and on school buses. Extra masks will be provided to any individual who requests, forgets to bring a mask for the day, loses or breaks their mask, or if the mask becomes unwearable or damaged.

At this time, we will continue to have no visitors in the buildings. There will still be bins placed at each of our buildings where forgotten items like lunches, musical instruments and homework can be dropped off without a need for visitors to enter the buildings. Back to School Night and Open Houses will be held virtually again this school year, later in September. More details will follow, also from your building Principal.

Currently, the Nutley Public Schools is following the requirements and guidelines established by the New Jersey Department of Health for physical or social distancing. Social distancing has been recommended in any setting where there is close contact of people, defined as less than six feet for more than 15 minutes in 24 hours. The CDC has changed its recommendation for social distancing inside schools to include three feet between masked students, six feet between staff and students, and six feet between students when masks are removed to the extent possible.

In the case of a student testing positive for COVID-19 after being in the school setting, only the positive student must quarantine. As per the New Jersey Department of Health The Road Forward Guidance updated August 21, 2021 in the PK–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition (less than six feet for more than 15 minutes in 24 hours) excludes students who were within three to six feet of an infected student where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. All NJDOH guidance for school return can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/The-Road-Forward>

As we continue to navigate the guidance of the NJDOE and the NJDOH to start the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to communicate with you. As I've said, we cannot let COVID-19 be the excuse or a reason for not looking forward with enthusiasm to another year of providing the children of Nutley with the high-quality education that they deserve.

I would also like to share a link to the Board of Education [Policy Book](#). As you may know, the Board's main responsibility is to set district policy. The Policy Committee meets regularly to review and update policy and regulations in accordance with the NJ Department of Education mandates and State legislation. These policies and regulations provide the guidance for all district operations. I encourage you to review our district policies, and as we begin the new school year, specifically those policies relating to Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB), and Attendance at the middle and high school levels.

Through the work of our Strategic Plan committees, and the Board of Education committees, including the Long Range Facilities committee, we were able to take identified priorities and direct district and federal resources in those areas and remove barriers. Despite the challenges, this year has been one of progress and growth in every aspect of the district. At this time, most of the district instructional spaces are air-conditioned, there are air cleaners with HEPA filters in each instructional space, exhaust fans have been replaced and electrical systems upgraded, and the Nutley High School Library/Media Space has been refurbished. We have expanded our 1:1 Chromebook initiative to benefit learners in grades 4-12, have replaced all teacher laptops with new MacBook Airs, updated all Paraprofessional and office devices, and have moved to centralized printing with new copiers. Additionally, we have added Social/Emotional Learning curriculum and resources grades PK-12, have added counselors and mental health programming, an elementary Literacy Coach and additional strategies teachers, expanded our K-8 summer programming, and provided extended strategies and reading intervention after school and in the evenings. We were also able to purchase multiple restaurant quality, weatherized tents with sides and protected from rain and wind, and tables for each elementary school to use for additional outdoor classroom and lunch space. And we still have many things to look forward to this school year!

While we are all feeling the impact of the past year and a half differently, I still believe we are all in this together. That we must be all in for each other. And, all in for our students. We remain Nutley stronger together, and each of you has contributed to making that possible. Thank you.

Looking forward to seeing your children next week! Welcome to a new school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Glazer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Dr. Julie Glazer, Superintendent