

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District  
Ms. Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools  
50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300  
Phone: (908) 284-7561 Fax: (908) 284-7656  
[kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us)



September 10, 2018

Dear Flemington-Raritan School Community:

I am pleased to announce that based on professional air quality testing and upon the professional judgement of our environmental consultant, R. K. Environmental, that all schools have been approved for use by students and staff in time for tomorrow's opening day. As a result, the closure of Francis A. Desmares School is no longer warranted, and all students will be welcomed into their own building tomorrow, September 11, 2018.

I want to assure you that the District has taken seriously its responsibility to provide a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment for all students, staff, and visitors. Over the past several weeks, extensive testing was conducted throughout the District and identified areas were addressed to the specifications of our environmental consultant. These areas were then professionally re-tested before determining whether students and staff could re-enter those areas. The results of these [air quality tests and correspondence from R K Environmental](#) are available for your review on the District's website.

There are still several rooms/spaces that need additional remediation and/or follow-up testing. These rooms will continue to be closed until they are cleared by the environmentalist. They continue to receive remediation following guidelines of our environmentalist and the EPA. These spaces include the following: at Barley Sheaf (7 classrooms; 1 media center; 1 art room, 1 faculty room. Negative air pressure containment is in place in the art room and library), at Copper Hill (1 classroom), at Francis A. Desmares (11 classrooms; test results are due back tonight but the environmentalist has cleared the building for opening. We expect these rooms to open very soon.), at Robert Hunter (2 classrooms; 1 media center. Negative air pressure containment is in place in the art room and library), and at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School (2 classrooms and the basement area outside of the lower gym. Negative air pressure containment is in place in appropriate spaces.) J.P. Case Middle School has no areas that will be closed. These rooms will be addressed in a priority order based on impact to students' instructional program. See the letter [here](#) which describes in great detail steps taken for these spaces to ensure student and staff health. A status report written by R. K. Occupational and Environmental Analysis, Inc. will be uploaded onto the district website after I receive the final test results from our microbiologist, Dr. Wei Tang. Again, I expect these tonight. All schools are open for students and staff.

In light of all that has been learned throughout the State this summer, the District will work closely with consultants to implement additional proactive measures to address air quality concerns. This will include routine air quality testing and the use of newly-purchased, industrial-sized HEPA air scrubbers and industrial dehumidifiers, and a yearly consult with the environmentalist, at a minimum.

Please know that your understanding and patience are truly appreciated, and that we deeply regret the need to delay the start of the school year by two days. However, as I'm sure you agree, the health and wellness of our students and staff must be our top priority.

Sincerely,

Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools