

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District  
Dr. 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)



June 4, 2021

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents and Community Members,

We have made tremendous progress on upgrades to our facilities with the referendum funding. New window installations at RFIS are almost complete with a few minor issues to correct, such as flawed blinds. Over 100 windows have been replaced and 26 exterior door locations have been addressed with new doors installed at RFIS. The roof-mounted HVAC equipment is tentatively scheduled for the end of June. If you visit Reading-Fleming Intermediate School you'll notice the beginning stages of stucco repair and refinishing on the outside of the building. The facade stucco repairs and refurbishing are ongoing as weather permits. Extensive work will continue over the summer with the site of Reading-Fleming Intermediate School becoming a full-fledged construction zone.

Maybe you've driven in the parking lot at J.P. Case recently or have traveled along Case Boulevard or Voorhees Corner Road. If so, you will have surely noticed the many signs of construction in the parking lot. J.P. Case Middle School has had site improvements with parking lot milling and repaving, thanks to the passing of the 2018 referendum. Painted line-striping and artwork were recently completed. Next, a seal coating will be completed on a section of the asphalt at the rear of the cafeteria that was not milled and repaved.

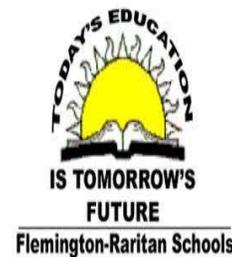
The construction vehicles used for the asphalt milling and paving have been present in the J.P. Case Middle School parking lot for a few weeks now. When two of my children were little they were fascinated with construction vehicles. They were able to identify an excavator from a bulldozer and were often heard saying, *"I'm going to drive one of those when I get big!"* We would talk about all the power and technology that was needed for construction work which often led to books about trucks *and* more books about trucks. Milling machines, sweepers, dump trucks, compactors, rollers, and asphalt pavers were all necessary equipment to construct the parking lot surface at J.P. Case. It has truly been a Tonka-truck-loving experience.

This summer referendum work is planned to continue with extensive work at all schools, not including J.P. Case. The biggest work occurring will be to install HVAC (air conditioning) at Barley Sheaf, Francis A. Desmares, Robert Hunter, and Reading-Fleming, as well as upgrades to the existing HVAC at Copper Hill. Installation of the HVAC in our buildings is on time and expected to be completed this summer. All buildings, with the exception of J.P. Case and Copper Hill, will be closed for the majority of the summer with office staff relocating to J. P. Case Middle School. Phone numbers for all schools will remain the same. Our new communication system, the LENS System, an automated emergency communication system, provides ease of transfer of communication tools. The LENS System is another upgrade that the 2018 referendum funding supported. Once again, I share my sincere gratitude for the community's referendum support.

The architect of our site improvements will be present at Monday night's Board of Education virtual meeting. Rich Alderiso of DI Group Architecture will share referendum progress thus far. Mr. Aderiso presented to the Board last October. You can find that previous presentation [here](#).

I am excited to share some leadership news with our community. Mr. Mark Masessa, current Vice Principal at Francis A. Desmares Elementary School was approved at the May 17th Board of Education meeting to be the new Principal of Francis A. Desmares Elementary School. Mr. Masessa has an amazing record of dedication to the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District and I'm excited about the positive influence he will continue to have on our elementary programs. Mr. Masessa's wisdom and enthusiasm for teachers and students have resonated at Francis A. Desmares Elementary School and will continue to do so.

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Mr. Todd Amiet was also approved at the May 17th Board of Education meeting as the new Director of Educational Facilities & Operations. Mr. Amiet is currently the Director of Buildings and Grounds in South Brunswick Public School District. He leads a 115-member team including security, maintenance, and custodial staff. Mr. Amiet is a highly accomplished, senior-level, buildings and grounds professional with an extensive background in buildings and grounds management. I thank the committee for interviewing candidates and for their recommendation for Mr. Amiet as the new Director of Educational Facilities & Operations. The committee consisted of the following FRSD team members:

1. Dr. Anthony DeMarco, RFIS Building Principal;
2. Ms. Sherri Glaab, RH Building Principal;
3. Dave Mulligan, Steve Powers, and Bryan Ruthe, all three from the Facilities Department;
4. Sue Vala, the President of the Flemington-Raritan Education Association;
5. Peter Sibilia, JPC Middle School VP; and
6. Dr. Edward Izbicki, recommended Interim Business Administrator.

#### **COVID-19 Update:**

Our Central West region continues to improve. Each week, the Department of Health provides information on the COVID-19 transmission at the regional level published through the CALI report. This week's COVID-19 report shows our Central West region remains in the "yellow." All indicators; Case Rate and Percent Positivity, and Percent CLI decreased. The Southeast region of our state remains in the "green." The Southeast region includes Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties. The state's COVID-19 Activity Level Index Weekly Reports are all linked [here](#). This week's activity level report is [here](#).

No new positive COVID-19 cases were reported in the District this week. A current count of reported COVID-19 cases is posted on the [District website](#). To find the current count of reported COVID-19 cases visit the district homepage and click on the headline that reads Current COVID-19 count. The chart is updated by the end of each day in which a case is reported to the Superintendent.

#### **Pfizer COVID Vaccine Clinic:**

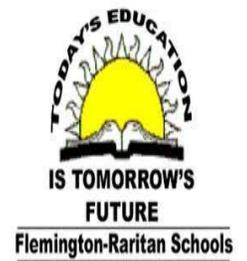
*The information below is provided by Kathleen A. Seelig, MA, Corporate Director of Public Relations and Marketing at the Hunterdon Medical Center:*

Sleeves up for summer! Summer is right around the corner and many of the summer activities we missed last year are coming back. Outdoor entertainment, sporting events, summer camps, and group vacations are just some of the summertime activities starting to populate family calendars, so take the opportunity now to get your COVID-19 vaccine and enjoy the summer knowing you and your loved ones are vaccinated.

We are hosting a Pfizer vaccination clinic on June 9, 2021, at Hunterdon Medical Center. Late afternoon appointments will be available to all individuals 12 years and older who live, work, or go to school in the State of New Jersey. Those under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. If you would like to schedule an appointment you can do so online or by phone.

To schedule an appointment online, click on the Online Appointment Scheduling box below and you will be redirected to our online appointment scheduling service. Once there, you will see the details of the clinic and the available times

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from which you can select an appointment. [Click here](#). To schedule by phone, the Vaccination Scheduling Call Center can be reached at (908) 237-4238 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our representatives will be happy to help you schedule an appointment.

On the day of your appointment please follow our Hunterdon Heart signs lining the road on the left side of Hunterdon Medical Center, leading to the rear of the hospital. When you approach the rear of the building you will be greeted by an attendant who will show you where to park and also provide you with the necessary vaccine paperwork to complete before you enter the hospital. We look forward to seeing you on June 9th!

**From the Salvation Army:**

Time to sign up for the Summer Lunch Club! Summer Lunch Club is running in July and August, Tuesdays-Thursdays, at 1 PM! This is for ages 5-17 and anyone under 5 can come if accompanied by a parent. Because of Covid-19, we are planning to serve outdoors in a socially distant setting. If you do not feel comfortable with your child coming to The Salvation Army for this program, we are hoping to be able to deliver this food to you. These plans may change when more information is out about Covid regulations in the summer. [You can sign up using this link](#).

**Upcoming Weather Next Week:**

We are carefully monitoring the temperatures in our buildings. We have been fortunate with the weather and humidity thus far, but next week's weather and temperatures look to be sunny, warm, and a bit humid. Dehumidifiers have been turned on in the buildings to support healthy air quality. In our buildings without air conditioning, teachers will take students outside for mask breaks. There are plenty of shaded spots on our campuses. Please remind your children to wear cool, comfortable clothing. When our students are outside taking a mask break, socially distanced, they are not required to wear their masks but may keep them on if they choose. Faculty and staff have been informed that when outdoors, socially distanced, masks do not need to be worn. We continue to operate on an early release schedule so that students, staff, and faculty can be home at the hottest part of the day.

We are planning for a successful and positive conclusion to the school year as well as a safe and welcoming return to school **for all children** in September.

Wishing you good health,

Dr. Kari McGann  
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