

Dear Families and Staff;

After spending a year in pandemic lockdown, it is wonderful to take some time tonight to celebrate. First and foremost, we all have to acknowledge the hard work of members of our community whose tireless efforts secured vaccines for the teachers and staff of Berkeley Heights Public Schools.

It is my pleasure to thank:

Daniella McDonnell

Debra Varnerin

Krista Saturnia

Gia Meredith

Tammy Sanders

Jill Chhowalla

Jennifer Battista

Cheryl Harris

Ritu Chandra

Through their efforts over 100 teachers and staff have signed up to receive the vaccine. This makes everyone safer and brings us one step closer to a return to a normal school day. It is the work of people like you who make this an amazing community to live and work in.

In other great news, it is my pleasure to announce that Mary Kay McMillin principal - Annie Corley-Hand has received two prestigious awards. ***She was named the Visionary Principal of the Year (Elementary) as well as a NAESP National Distinguished Principal “NDP”.*** We are so proud that Annie is being acknowledged for her dedication and hard work on behalf of the children of Berkeley Heights Public Schools! Congratulations Annie!

Finally, as I announced earlier in the week, the district is moving forward with our plans to begin transitioning back to a normal school day. We have worked closely with the BHEA and have determined that if numbers continue to stay low, we will move forward with Plan A- all students, half day, no lunch- on April 12th for grades 6-12. There is no change in grades 1-5 which will continue to operate on Plan A. I will continue to update you on district reopening plans as events unfold.

For the first time in several weeks we are seeing a small up-tick in the number of cases at CMS. Fortunately, the cases appear to be somewhat isolated.

Our Covid update is below:

<b>New Cases (since 3/1 update)</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Staff/Student</b>	<b>Result</b>
MKM	2 Students	1. Last day in School 2/24 Close contacts notified 2. No in school exposure
CMS	4 Students	3 students had no in school exposure 1 student's last day in school was 3/2 Close contacts notified
TPH	1 Student	Last day in School 3/2 Close Contacts Notified
GLHS	1 Student	Last day in school 3/2 Close contacts notified

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Melissa Varley