

Dear Families and Staff,

Thank you for your patience this morning as we wrestled with PowerSchool. My hat goes off to all of the staff who stepped up and took temperatures, filled out forms, and made the process as smooth as possible.

I am sure you are all aware that yesterday Derek Chauvin was convicted on all charges of the murder of George Floyd. As the trial played out in the news, we found ourselves confronted by the brutality of that video and had to wrestle again with our emotions - the shock, the sadness, the anger. We were reminded of the convulsions that rocked the country, and how they reached into our own community impacting our students, families, and staff. We will not solve these issues in our generation, but we must do better both as a nation and as a community. The mission of the Berkeley Heights Public Schools is to Include, Inspire, and Empower. It is a matter of equity that all of our students regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, or mental or physical ability feel safe, accepted, and included when they come to school.

In other news, we have our second Town Hall tomorrow night, and we will finalize the survey on April 25th. If you haven't filled it out, please do so.

Tonight, The School District of the Chathams will host a Parent Wellness Series on Current Drug Trends. The information is attached to this email. [Current Drug Trends 2021.docx \(2\).pdf](#)

And for our Covid Update:

New Cases (since 4/16 update)		
School	Staff/Student	Result
MP	1 Staff	Last day in School 4/16 Close contacts notified
GLHS	3 Students	Last day in School 4/12 1 student fully remote No in-school exposure
GLHS	1 Staff	Last day in School 3/26 No in-school exposure

Sincerely,
Dr. Melissa Varley