

The Friday Folder – 6/17/22

The Columbia Middle School Main Office will be closed on Wednesday, June 22 thru Friday, June 24. We will return on Monday, June 27.

Please visit the Community Folder for all upcoming events: <https://www.bhpsnj.org/Domain/116>

Our Nurses:

Please remember that our district follows CDC and state/local health department guidelines with regard to Covid protocols. District nurses are working hard (often including nights and weekends) to help keep staff and students safe by complying with these guidelines. It is not their choice whether to quarantine students; they are simply relaying information based on district regulations. Thank you in advance for supporting our nurses and treating them with kindness and respect as we continue to persevere together.

Change in Practice: MARCH 7th

On March 7th, masks will become optional in all district buildings and on buses for all students and staff. We welcome and will respect everyone's personal decision on whether or not to mask. Staff members will not be responsible for mask enforcement for those parents who wish their students to remain masked.

Classrooms

- Staff members **can not require masks** to be worn in their classrooms.
- If a student appears ill or is exhibiting signs of illness, the student will be sent to the nurse. Symptomatic students will be masked in the nurse's office and sent home.

Lunch

- Assigned seating will remain in effect
- Barriers will now be optional. Students who wish barriers can set them up as per current practice. Like masks, staff are not responsible to ensure the use of barriers.

Covid-19 Details

- It is critical that students displaying symptoms do not attend school. Honestly - one of the lessons of Covid in general is - if you are sick stay home! Regardless of symptoms.
- Parents of symptomatic students will be notified, and students with documented cases of Covid-19 will be quarantined and provided with remote instruction.
- While the district is contact tracing, parents of students who are close contacts will be notified, but not sent home. Parents should carefully monitor for symptoms and get tested if symptomatic. Asymptomatic students will not be required to quarantine.

This information will be updated with further NJDOE or NJDOH guidance as it becomes available.

From the Nurse:

Some useful information about reasonable health precautions.

[CMS Health Office Blog](#)

The Summit Area YMCA has partnered with New Eyes to provide access to vision care and free resources for families to receive free or low-cost eye care and eyeglasses to those who may not have the financial means to afford necessities to better their lives.

Having the right corrective lenses makes it possible for children to succeed in school, adults to find employment and function well at work, and for seniors to live safely and independently.

Please refer any student, teacher, or adult to our website to sign up for an appointment.

For more information and to make an appointment please visit our website page at <https://www.thesay.org/New-Eyes>

Please visit the Community Folder for information from the YMCA regarding Free 7th Grade Membership for the 2022-2023 year.

Eighth Grade Final Week Preparation Guide

June 13th to June 17th, 2022



2022

Columbia Middle School Commencement

June 20, 2022

Governor Livingston HS

Frey Field, 2:30 PM

Rain Times 4:30 PM or 6:30 PM

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the final days of eighth grade! I know I speak for everyone when I say, where has this year gone?"

This document contains information that will try to answer all the questions that you may have about Graduation Day and the days leading up to June 20th. If we can be of further service, please do not hesitate to call the office or email me directly.

We will hold our ceremony at Governor Livingston High School giving us the benefit of ample parking, greater capacity for outdoor seating, and a professional film crew to capture the event. The film will be played on cable for viewing/taping and we will be streaming the ceremony live over the cable network. If your guests would like to watch from home, seeing it live on TV will be the next best thing to being there.

You may have heard, **a professional photographer will be taking pictures of students as they receive their diplomas.** You can sit back, relax and enjoy the ceremony.

I would like to take a moment and thank our PTO for all they have done throughout the three years of our association.

As well, none of this would be possible without your support. The relationship that Columbia Middle School enjoys with the parents of our students can not be matched. We are fortunate.

Ms. Acosta and I wish each of your children the success they deserve. They are a remarkable group of young people and they will be missed.

See you on the 20th!

Sincerely,

Steve Hopkins and Grace Acosta

Gowns and Tickets:

Gowns will be handed out on Monday, June 13th. We are going to ask students NOT to try on the gowns in school. Directions for caring for the gowns can be found in this letter. Tickets are not being distributed. If weather ultimately moves us indoors information about an indoor ceremony will be shared - We aim to be outdoors.

Caring For Your Gown:

Gowns will be distributed on Monday, June 13th. Please be sure to unpack the gown when you get home. To avoid wrinkles, hang your gown on a hanger that day. The gowns this year DO NOT have collars. Each gown is the same. For the ceremony, students are expected to dress conservatively. Think Business casual as the minimum standard. No hats, shorts, jeans or sneakers. Thank You!

Graduation Practice:

Graduation practice dates at Columbia Middle School:

Wednesday, June 15th from 2:00 to 3:00 PM

Thursday, June 16th from 9:00 to 11:00 AM

Friday, June 17th from 2:00 to 3:00 PM

Monday June 20th from 8:30 to 10:00 AM

It is important that your child be at school each of these days in order to prepare. Please see that they arrive at school on time.

Commencement Day

June 20, 2022

Regular 8:10 A.M. start time for school.

Graduation practice will be over by 10 A.M.

Students must arrive at Governor Livingston by 1:15 P.M. Our ceremony will begin promptly at 2:30 P.M.

Meeting place for students:

Meet on the field beyond the football field. (Walk behind home bleachers).

Tentative Rain Dates and Times

If weather causes our original time to be delayed, you will be notified by email as early as possible. Our alternate times are as follows:

June 20 at 4:30 P.M., or then at 6:30 P.M.

June 21 at a time to be shared.

Last Day of School: June 21, 2022

Arrive at school at regular time.

Please ask students to bring yearbooks.

The yearbook is an excellent place to keep diplomas flat, which are not given out during the graduation ceremony.

There will also be time given to sign books.

Diplomas will be handed out at the end of day with a signed sheet as proof of attendance in each scheduled class block.

If Graduation is rained on the 20th the CMS school day schedule for the 21st will be the commencement day schedule listed above.