



Rose M. Lopez Elementary School

435 Seaman Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Telephone: 732-376-6270 Fax: 732-347-8976

Mr. Edwin Nieves
Principal

Mrs. Maritza Ficarra
Vice Principal

Good Evening Rose M. Lopez Families,

I hope that this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. I understand that the start of the new year hasn't been easy, but I appreciate your support and flexibility during this time of remote instruction. I am truly impressed with the level of instruction and learning that has happened virtually since January 3rd. Please be assured that our amazing staff will continue to meet the social emotional learning needs of your children while we remain on virtual instruction. I look forward to our continued collaboration and a safe return to in-person instruction.

As the building Principal, I would like to assure you that we are prepared for your child's return. Our building administrative team at Rose M. Lopez School has established several protocols since the beginning of the school year, and will continue to enhance those protocols as the guidance we receive from local and state agencies changes. With that said, we certainly want to update and remind our parents of the protocols we have established not only on the instructional side, but the operational side as well:

- **Vaccinations/Testing**: As you may already know, the Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control continuously update their guidelines as we navigate through this pandemic. As a result, we need to know whether your child is fully vaccinated or not. Please click on this very important [PAPS Vaccination Status](#) and complete it no later than Monday, January 24, 2022. For information on testing and vaccination centers within the immediate area, please [click here](#).
- **Notification**: It is equally as important for a parent/guardian to contact our office if your child tests positive for Covid-19. You can contact our vice principal at [732.376.6270](tel:732.376.6270) and email the confirmed proof of the positive test to marificarra@paps.net. Please note that this information will be kept strictly confidential. However, it is critical to our ability to remain open for live instruction.
- **Contact Tracing**: Contact tracing is conducted by our administrative team in the building. If there is a confirmed case, our nurse along with myself or a Vice Principal will identify any student who may be considered a "close contact." We have gone as far as to provide assigned seating during lunch in order to limit exposure throughout the cafeteria. We then share these names with the Human Resources Department, who conducts the necessary calls to make parents aware of the close contact. We will continue to follow this practice upon our return to live instruction.
- **Isolation Room**: Each building has a dedicated isolation room where students/staff who may demonstrate symptoms of COVID-19 can safely wait. Students can be picked up from the isolation room by a parent/guardian when warranted. Rest assured that the District will continue to follow current CDC guidelines and NJDOE mandates.
- **Disinfecting/Cleaning of buildings**: Every room has been thoroughly and deeply disinfected since the start of remote instruction. Upon our return, our custodial staff will continue to sanitize and disinfect high touch areas using our electro-static sprayers, along with several other "green" disinfecting products. Our bathrooms will continue to be sanitized every 20-30 minutes on a rotating schedule. Each



Rose M. Lopez Elementary School

435 Seaman Avenue
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Telephone: 732-376-6270 Fax: 732-347-8976

Mr. Edwin Nieves
Principal

Mrs. Maritza Ficarra
Vice Principal

classroom now has battery powered touchless hand sanitizers for students and staff to quickly and effectively disinfect their hands.

- **Masks:** All masks must be worn above the nose in order to ensure everyone's safety. It is imperative that students come to school every day with a mask.
- **Technology:** All students were issued a Chromebook during the school year. Your child should be working with his/her teacher every day via Google classroom. Failure to appear in the google classroom will result in the student being marked absent for the day. Students who have been identified as not having internet at home, were issued a MiFi device in order to continue instruction. If your child is having difficulty with his/her device, or is facing some other technical issue, please contact my office immediately so we can help resolve the issue.
- **Parent Conferences:** Parent conferences will still take place on Monday, February 14, 2022 and Tuesday, February 15, 2022. We will be contacting parents shortly with more detailed information.
- **After School Activities:** All after school activities will continue as they have for the past two weeks. Students should be receiving information from their advisor/teacher on how to log into a specific after school program.
- **Social Emotional:** Counseling services are critical to engage students for academic learning. The Department of Counseling and Related Services will continue to provide ongoing social emotional support remotely to help students cope with any challenges. We encourage you to reach out to my office with any questions and support that your child may need.

Once again, it was a difficult decision to continue to remain on remote instruction until we return on Monday, January 31, 2022. We understand that this affects families in many different ways. Thank you for your continued understanding. If you have any questions, please contact me at edwinieves@paps.net or 732.376.6270.

Sincerely,

Edwin Nieves