



Howell Township Public Schools

Office of the Board President

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September 17, 2021

Honorable Phil Murphy, Governor of New Jersey
225 West State Street
PO Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

Please accept this correspondence on behalf of the Howell Township Board of Education. We believe it is important to recognize that just like our community, the members of the Board share differing opinions regarding the masking of our children, and parental choice, but we all agree that the primary concern is having our children back in school full-time. After numerous discussions, we would like to submit the following.

We recognize that the positivity rate in New Jersey has been rising, and that some children have become a larger part of that statistic. We all agree that the primary goal at this point is a safe opening of school, but we have a few questions that we believe you might be able to help us with. We ask these questions to be best prepared as we move into the school year and what it might look like for our staff, students and their families.

Here are some questions we hope you can answer:

Regarding the masking of children and staff, would you share what metrics you might consider in either removing or altering the current mandates?


Regrettably, if any District has to quarantine large numbers of children, do you at all envision reverting back to a fully remote learning environment?

Would these changes be determined by county, or do you envision all Executive Orders to be statewide? Is there any point in which you would consider having school district officials (Board of Educations or Superintendents) make the decisions at the local level?

Would it be possible to considering providing briefing to school officials, in advance of announcements, to allow districts to prepare for changing guidance? Receiving guidance ahead of the public will allow districts to provide thoughtful communication to our school community.

Thank you for your consideration to these matters.

Respectfully,



Mr. Mark Bonjavanni
Board of Education President

Mr. Albert Miller
Board of Education Vice President

C: Howell Board of Education
HTBOE Senior Administration