

**EAST ORANGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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Mr. AbdulSaleem Hasan
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Assistant Superintendents

Ms. Anita Champagne
Dr. Deborah Harvest

January 6, 2021

Greetings East Orange School District Staff:

Again, *Happy New Year!* As we embark upon 2021, my hope is that as a district, we continue to move onward and upward. The year of 2020 required a great deal of flexibility and as we start the new year, we are asking for even greater flexibility and adaptability in regards to our remote learning phase for students and staff. Please review the critical East Orange School District updates below.

On Tuesday, January 5, 2021, the East Orange Board of Education, in consultation with local agencies and partners, including Dr. Monique Griffith, the East Orange Director of Health and Mr. Victor Kuteyi, the city's Health Officer, *approved the district's extension for remote learning*. This decision was based on 2020 holiday travel, influenza season, coupled with the upswing of COVID-19 cases in New Jersey, more specifically the Essex County area. Though this has been a difficult decision to make, it is necessary in order to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff.

Critical Updates:

Remote learning for all students has been extended to Monday, March 1, 2021.

Teaching Staff Members and Teacher Assistants/Paraprofessionals:

- January 6 - February 16, 2021: You will work remotely during this timeframe. However, you may report to work in-person, if you so desire. Please inform your building administrator if you choose to report in-person during this timeframe. *Please refer to my letter dated November 24, 2020 for remote instruction expectations.*

All Administrators, Central Office Staff, Data Entry Clerks, Secretaries/Attendance Officers:

- January 6 - February 16, 2021: You will continue to report to work in-person two (2) full days per week and work remotely three (3) full days per week. In-person work days will be determined by the school/location administrator.

Custodians, Maintenance, Security and IT Staff:

- Must report to work daily

“Developing Leaders One Student at a Time”

Please note the following:

- When reporting to work, staff will work full days. Staff must complete the Daily COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire for their location, submit to a temperature check upon arrival and **must** wear masks in their respective work locations.
- Wednesdays are reserved for deep cleaning. *Only custodial, security, and maintenance staff will be required to report to work in-person on Wednesdays.* No other staff members will be permitted to enter any district building on Wednesdays, unless prior authorization has been granted.
- In addition, all East Orange staff members are considered essential staff to ensure the continuity of education in the school community. *Based on this understanding, it is important for all staff to understand that you may be called to report on site by district officials and/or your building principal to perform essential tasks that cannot be done remotely.*

As always, thank you for your continued support as we continue to make collaborative decisions that are in the best interest of the East Orange School District.

Educationally Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Hasan', with a circular stamp or mark at the end.

AbdulSaleem Hasan, Ed.S.
Superintendent of Schools

*"Every adversity brings new experiences and new lessons."
Lailah Gifty Akita*