



# BLACK HORSE PIKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

580 Erial Road, Blackwood, New Jersey 08012-4550

(856) 227-4106 • Fax (856) 227-6835

[www.bhprsd.org](http://www.bhprsd.org)

Where inspiring excellence is our standard and student achievement is the result

**Dr. Brian Repici**

*Superintendent*



**Frank Rizzo**

*Board Secretary, Business Administrator*

**Julie A. Scully**

*Assistant Superintendent*

**Matthew Szuchy**

*Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

## PHASE III LEARNING PLAN: TRANSITIONING TO FIVE (5) HALF-DAY IN PERSON OPTION

March 18, 2021

Over the past couple of weeks, I have been asked by the Board of Education to increase the number of days students attend school. The presentation provided to the Board and to the public on Thursday, February 25, 2021 can be found [here](#).

I was also asked to survey the community. The results of the survey are as follows:

As of Friday, February 26, 2021, there were 1,008 respondents.

- 58.4% of respondents indicated that they have a child that is attending the Hybrid in-person learning model and would continue to do so if the District increased the number of days students attended in-person learning.
- 60 respondents, cumulatively, indicated they would switch to a Hybrid model if the District increased the number of days students attended in-person learning. (106 -yes [remote to hybrid]; 46 indicated the opposite [hybrid to remote-only])
- 451 respondents (44.7%) indicated a preference of 4 or 5 half days in school by combining cohorts A & B.
- 380 respondents (37.7%) indicated a preference of 4 or 5 full days in school by combining cohorts A & B.
- 174 respondents wish to keep the schedule the same or keep their child on remote-only instruction. 3 others chose not to respond.

Over the last few weeks, regional COVID-19 transmission has decreased from 14.42 percent positivity rate in early January to 6.33 percent positivity rate the week ending February 13, 2021. The national positivity rate has also decreased from over 300,000 daily cases in early January to approximately 65,000 daily cases this past week. There is the absence of linked transmission occurring in our schools. It is not my intention to diminish the impact that COVID-19 has had on all of our lives; it has been devastating and all of us are grieving something or someone that we lost as a result. The national and local trends are moving in the right direction, and yet, we still understand, while the risk has been reduced, there is still a risk of virus transmission.

I have asked the Camden County Department of Health to visit our schools and audit our preparations and mitigation efforts and make any recommendations about increasing the number of students attending our schools in the near future. The Department of Health visited Timber Creek High School on March 9, 2021 and made several recommendations, which we will follow.

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### HIGHLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Ms. Lisa Owen, Principal



@HighlandHS

### TIMBER CREEK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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As I stated at the Board of Education meeting, I am not in support of bringing students back, at this time, for full school days. There are just too many barriers, obstacles, and risks associated with doing so. Additionally, there are staffing needs we may not be able to meet with regards to bringing students back full days.

I do believe it is possible to combine the student groups of students and increase the number of half-days students attend. There are some challenges with doing so, but we are working through those challenges with the assistance of our Principals. **We are working to overcome busing challenges and ordering additional safety supplies, like air purification systems and desk barriers, in order to start our Phase III Re-Opening and Remote Learning Plan on March 29, 2021.**

We will continue to employ the mitigation efforts we have used thus far. They include the following:

- We have ordered additional air purification systems for classrooms and offices. They should start arriving next week. Our maintenance team has our HVAC units running efficiently to deliver the recommended fresh air into our spaces.
- The 6 feet of social distancing is still the foundation for our classroom organization. However, by combing cohorts A & B, there will be classrooms where there may not be 6 feet of social distancing between students; it may be 4 or 5 feet. 6 feet of social distancing between students and staff, as guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends, must be the standard, though.
  - There will be classrooms where the 6 feet cannot be maintained.
  - Your child has the potential to be at increased risk for being exposed to and potentially contracting COVID-19 when cohorts A & B are combined for the 5 half-day in person learning option.
    - There is an increased risk for exposure to and contracting COVID-19 when social distancing of 6 feet is not maintained.
- The Schools and District will continue to monitor contact tracing for all students and staff members who report a positive COVID-19 test result. We do so in coordination with the Camden County Department of Health.
  - When we are made aware of a positive COVID-19 individual in one of our schools, our contact tracing includes an analysis of the class seating charts and communication with classrooms' teachers and other professionals who may have been in the classroom. Other students in the classroom who are determined to be close contacts, within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes, are required to be excluded from school for a quarantine period.
  - If a symptomatic student does not get tested for COVID-19 and is only excluded due to symptoms, contact tracing will not occur and close contacts will not be notified. You will only be notified if a close contact of your child tests positive for COVID-19. This is in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health guidance.

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- Our staff have worked diligently since school opened in September to have classroom environments that are structured using the New Jersey Department Education, Health, and CDC guidelines.
  - Room configurations may be adjusted based on social distancing needs and/or class size.
  - Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of classrooms and the schools will continue.
- The District also continues to urge our school community to get COVID-19 tested when symptoms are present and/or if you or your child has a known exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual and/or an individual displaying COVID-19 like symptoms.
  - We cannot require COVID-19 testing.
- Please continue to follow the COVID-19 mitigation practices, and model them for your child.
  - Wear a mask.
  - Maintain 6 feet of social distancing.
  - Practice good hand hygiene, washing/sanitizing your hands frequently.
  - Report any illness or symptoms to the school nurse immediately.

Any family or student that wishes to return to in-person learning at the start of this schedule, which is also the start of the fourth marking period, March 29, 2021, **must notify the student's vice-principal by Wednesday, March 24, 2021.** Any requests after Wednesday, March 24, 2021 will not be accommodated.

**See the [Phase III Learning Schedule](#) on the next page.**

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## The PHASE III In-Person Learning Schedule

<b>Monday</b> (60 min periods)	<b>Tuesday</b> (60 min periods)	<b>Wednesday</b> (28 min periods)	<b>Thursday</b> (60 min periods)	<b>Friday</b> (60 min periods)
<b>Announcements</b> 7:25 am - 7:31 am	<b>Announcements</b> 7:25 am - 7:31 am	<b>Announcements</b> 7:25 am - 7:30 am	<b>Announcements</b> 7:25 am - 7:31 am	<b>Announcements</b> 7:25 am - 7:31 am
<b>Period 1</b> 7:31 am – 8:31 am	<b>Period 2</b> 7:31 am – 8:31 am	<b>Period 1</b> 7:30 am – 7:58 am	<b>Period 1</b> 7:31 am – 8:31 am	<b>Period 2</b> 7:31 am – 8:31 am
		<b>Period 2</b> 8:02 am – 8:30 am		
<b>Period 3</b> 8:35 am – 9:35 am	<b>Period 4</b> 8:35 am – 9:35 am	<b>Period 3</b> 8:34 am – 9:02 am	<b>Period 3</b> 8:35 am – 9:35 am	<b>Period 4</b> 8:35 am – 9:35 am
		<b>Period 4</b> 9:06 am – 9:34 am		
<b>Period 5</b> 9:39 am – 10:39 am	<b>Period 6</b> 9:39 am – 10:39 am	<b>Period 5</b> 9:38 am – 10:06 am	<b>Period 5</b> 9:39 am – 10:39 am	<b>Period 6</b> 9:39 am – 10:39 am
		<b>Period 6</b> 10:10 am – 10:38 am		
<b>Period 7</b> 10:43 am – 11:45 am (2 extra min for announcements)	<b>Period 8</b> 10:43 am – 11:45 am (2 extra min for announcements)	<b>Period 7</b> 10:42 am – 11:10 am	<b>Period 7</b> 10:43 am – 11:45 am (2 extra min for announcements)	<b>Period 8</b> 10:43 am – 11:45 am (2 extra min for announcements)
		<b>Period 8</b> 11:14 am – 11:45 am (3 extra min for announcements)		
<b>Afternoons: M-R until 2:40pm, Friday until 2:10pm</b> <b>Teacher Office Hours, Planning and Academic Extra Help... AND...</b>				
Students complete Asynchronous Work for Periods 2, 4, 6 and 8 (20 minutes each)	Students complete Asynchronous Work for Periods 1, 3, 5 and 7 (20 minutes each)	Students work on asynchronous assignments	Students complete Asynchronous Work for Periods 2, 4, 6 and 8 (20 minutes each)	Students complete Asynchronous Work for Periods 1, 3, 5 and 7 (20 minutes each)

As always, we appreciate your patience, understanding, and support of Black Horse Pike Regional School District.

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