

# GARFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

34 OUTWATER LANE, GARFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07026

**ANNA SCIACCA**  
Superintendent of Schools

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March 28, 2021

Dear Member of the Garfield School Community:

As you are aware, the Garfield School District opened for in-person instruction on March 8, 2021. The district has diligently implemented all mitigation measures in our schools including social distancing of staff and students, wearing masks at all times, teaching and reinforcing handwashing techniques, providing hand sanitizer and other necessary PPE in all classrooms and offices, adhering to a strict schedule of daily cleaning and disinfecting of all areas and frequently touched objects, and immediate contact tracing following confirmed cases of Covid-19.

All decisions regarding the closure of classrooms, an entire school, or the entire district are local decisions that are made by the administration in consultation with the Garfield Health Department as well as our medical director, Dr. Donna Koch. Since there have been two or more positive cases of Covid -19 identified both at School #7 and Garfield High School within the last fourteen days that cannot be linked to exposure outside of the school setting, we will transition to fully remote learning in both schools for fourteen days. **School #7 and Garfield High School will be closed for in-person instruction immediately and will transition to fully remote learning until April 12, 2021. All other schools in the district will remain open for in-person instruction.**

It is important that all members of our school community continue to follow protocols aimed to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in the city and school district. You can assist us by remaining vigilant and sensible in your approach to dealing with this pandemic. As a reminder to parents who have opted for in-person instruction, **it is of the utmost importance to monitor your child carefully each morning for any viral or flu-like symptoms and keep your child at home until symptoms have resolved.** School nurses should be immediately informed if the child or anyone in the household is sick and they will guide you through the process of doing what is necessary to safely return your child to the school setting.

Please check the district website, [www.gboe.org](http://www.gboe.org), to view the Covid-19 Weekly Update, which illustrates the number of Covid cases of staff and students by school. The Garfield District will continue to prioritize the health and safety of our students and staff and make all decisions regarding school closures in accordance with the recommendations of the CDC, our local and county health departments, and the New Jersey Department of Education.

I urge you to continue to stay safe and healthy as we navigate through the many challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Regards,

*Anna Sciacca*

Superintendent of Garfield Public Schools

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