

DOWNE TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



December 10, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I would like to thank you all for your cooperation and support during this school year. As anticipated, COVID-19 continues to present us with new challenges each day. We believe that the preventative measures we have put in place here at Downe Township School have helped to successfully reduce exposure to COVID-19 within our building. However, as numbers in Cumberland County continue to rise, there is increased risk for this disease to spread within our community as well as for people to come into contact with those that are positive. At this point, we have not seen any positive cases within our school. However, as potential exposure to COVID-19 rises, there becomes an increased need to quarantine students and staff due to being close contacts or presenting with COVID-19 compatible symptoms. With a shortage of substitute personnel, it is becoming more difficult to cover these absences, which can sometimes extend for 14 days.

In addition, as we approach the holiday season and winter break, the Cumberland County Health Department anticipates that we will continue to see an increase in positive cases of COVID-19. Therefore, beginning on Monday, December 14, 2020, we will move to our full-remote learning schedule. Detailed information regarding your child's classroom schedule will be shared by their teacher. Attendance will continue to be taken so please make sure you child/children attend online classes. Our anticipated date to reopen for in-person/hybrid instruction will be Tuesday, January 19, 2021. I will continue to provide updates in the new year prior to our reopening date.

As stated from the beginning of the pandemic, our goal is to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff while providing for their educational needs. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we continue to navigate the uncharted waters ahead. We look forward to returning to hybrid/in-person learning in the new year. Please have a safe and healthy winter break.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherri Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherri Miller