



## Central Administration Offices

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Dr. C. Lauren Schoen  
*Interim Superintendent of Schools*

Mrs. Diane Collazo-Baker  
*Assistant Superintendent of Schools*

Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor  
*School Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

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August 18, 2021

Dear Fort Lee Families,

We hope the summer break has afforded everyone time for some rest and relaxation and that our students are having opportunities to reconnect with friends and engage in meaningful, fun learning experiences. The first day of school for all students is September 9, 2021. With the beginning of the school year only weeks away, our excitement continues to build as we are diligently planning to welcome students and staff back to school in the safest, most practical way possible. While we understand that everyone wants to return to a “normal” environment; we unfortunately are not there yet. The most recent information on the COVID-19 virus and Delta variant warrants us to be especially mindful of health and safety protocols in place for the 2021-2022 school year. To this end, we remain committed to making the best final decisions for our students and staff members as we enter the new school year.

On May 17, 2021, Governor Murphy announced that schools are required to provide full-day, in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year as they were prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The school year, at its start, will be “normal” in that all traditional bell schedules, programs and extracurricular activities will be in place along with implementation of safety measures that incorporate the most current COVID-19 health guidance.

Attached to this letter are the Fort Lee Public Schools’ *Reopening Plan* and *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)* document that provide important information about our protocols related to health and safety, contact tracing and quarantines, and instructional program.

These documents were developed based on the guidance provided in [The Road Forward](#), and in consultation with school district administration, representatives of the Fort Lee Education Association, our school nurses, members of the Fort Lee Board of Education,

and the Fort Lee Department of Health. Our *Reopening Plan* and *FAQs* are available on our website in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, and Japanese.

Please keep in mind that the situation remains fluid and that these protocols are subject to change by order of State and local agencies. We will provide more information as required protocols continue to evolve. You will also receive information from each principal regarding school specific operations and activities.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters together. On behalf of the Fort Lee Public Schools, we wish you and your family continued good health and look forward to seeing you and your children in September.

Sincerely,  
C. Lauren Schoen, Ed.D.  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Diane Collazo-Baker  
Assistant Superintendent