



LPS
LINWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brian M. Pruitt, Superintendent

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Dear Linwood Families-

Thank you for your support and understanding as our Linwood Schools prepared for the start of the 2020-2021 school year! **We look forward to our return to school on September 8th!** As you know, we have been committed to re-opening and planning for our return to in-person instruction in some capacity as required by the Governor and the New Jersey Department of Education's Road Back Restart and Recovery Plan for Education. Currently, almost 85% of our families are listed as returning to school for in-person instruction. For those families that have selected the virtual option within our Green Cohort, we have continued our planning and development with attention to your children as well. Our planning for the virtual option students has included a number of considerations and families who have selected this will receive more information from the schools. We look forward to the start of a new school year for all of our student and staff Dolphins and Falcons!

Our school administration, Board of Education, and Return to School Committees, along with feedback from a variety of individuals, organizations, and support service agencies have helped to guide our decision making and planning throughout our preparation process. I am happy to share that the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for Atlantic County, Mr. Robert Bumpus, has reviewed our School District's reopening plan for the upcoming school year, and he has notified us that our plan meets and contains all of the elements required by the New Jersey Department of Education's checklist. He also shared his thanks for our work and wished our students, staff, and school community well for the upcoming school year.

Please know that we will continue to focus on our students – your children – as we are in the final stages of preparation. We have listened to your feedback and discussions with our schools. Each school is working on creative methods to implement strategies to include more opportunities for student-teacher interaction. As the theme of our plan indicates, our restart is focused on H.E.A.R.T. and that will always be a foundation for our work – with care for the children, staff, and school community at the forefront.

We will continue to follow the guidelines and considerations provided for schools in our state from the many agencies involved – the New Jersey Department of Education, the CDC, and the state and local Departments of Health. Our District is ready to begin the year with our hybrid model for in-person learning and will continue our commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff and enhancing learning opportunities for the whole-child. We are excited to start school again and our dedicated educators on the Linwood Staff are excited to work with your children.

Finally, keep in mind these items that will be sent in the coming weeks: Student cohort assignments were mailed today along with some other specific information from the building Principals, Mrs. Care and Dr. Luff. Please know that there will be more information provided over the next few weeks prior to the start of school. Be sure to check your email for SchoolMessenger outreach as well as staying connected through our fresh new website and social media accounts @LinwoodSchools.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

#FinsUpWingsUp

Brian M. Pruitt
Superintendent of Schools