



**WASHINGTON
TOWNSHIP**
SCHOOL DISTRICT

BRASS CASTLE SCHOOL
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Michael J. Neu, PRINCIPAL

December 10, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I am writing to let you know that we will be continuing with full remote instruction until January 4, 2021. This challenging decision was not made lightly and is based on rapidly rising COVID-19 rates in and around our area. While school has been closed for in-person instruction since prior to Thanksgiving, we have learned of two staff members testing positive for COVID-19 and additional staff members identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms. Unfortunately, due to the quarantine of staff members, we do not have sufficient staff available to safely supervise students and implement in-person instruction.

We fully recognize this decision will be challenging for many families and we are committed to supporting families during this time. Students should continue to follow their remote learning schedules as provided. The District plans to reopen for in-person learning on Monday, January 4, 2021. An update regarding school reopening will be provided over the holiday break confirming in-person learning or the possible extension of full remote learning. The decision to reopen for in-person learning on January 4, 2021 will be based on the COVID-19 activity levels in the region, as well as the ability to safely supervise in-person instruction.

As a reminder all families will be able to pick up student breakfast and lunch meals at Brass Castle School on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:00pm – 1:30pm, during this full remote learning period. If your family is unable to make it to Brass Castle to pick up meals at the designated times, please contact your child's school for assistance.

Finally, we understand these unprecedented times bring a host of stressors. Please reach out to our support staff – Deb Tierney/School Counselor, Erin Karl/Social Worker, Jenn Borusovic/Psychologist – with any questions, concerns and needs.

Thank you for your support of staff and students throughout this health crisis.

Stay safe!

Keith Neuhs
Superintendent

COVID-19 Regional Report
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/>

COVID-19 Holiday Guidance
https://nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_GuidanceWinterHolidays.pdf