



# LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

I hope you have all enjoyed your holiday preparations and are looking forward to celebrating with family and friends. I wish you all a happy holiday and a rewarding New Year! It has brought me immense joy to see our students, parents, and community come together for the Tree Lighting Ceremony, the Point Road Winter Concert, and the Markham Place Winter Concert. The students gave great performances and sharing in fellowship with the parents was greatly appreciated after missing out on these annual events last year. The smiles on the district staff that were generated by the generosity of all those who donated to the PTO Cookie Exchange also added to the good tidings of the season. These events reflected the exemplary model of the Little Silver School District; talented and amazing students, dedicated staff members, caring parents, and a supporting community. As you can see, there are many positives for us to reflect on and celebrate.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts that have made for a successful first four months of school and for adhering to public health and safety measures that have ensured schools remain a safe place for our students and staff. We understand that there may be challenges as winter break begins and encourage all families to consider what we can all do to make the return to school in January 2022 as safe as possible. It is the intent of the District to return for in-person instruction on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We ask that everyone do what they can to reinforce the health and safety protocols aimed at protecting our students and staff. **Please keep your child home if they are sick or if they are displaying any symptoms.**

In the past, when Covid-19 cases have surged, mandates have made us pivot to remote learning quickly. Learning from past experience, it is important to be prepared should we find ourselves in that situation again. With this in mind, teachers have been sending students home with additional instructional materials. I want to stress that these are merely precautionary measures because we plan to return for in-person instruction on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It is a busy time of year, but I can't think of a better kind of busy I would want to be. I hope you all embrace the craziness and treasure this "most wonderful time of the year" with family and friends. A quote from Thomas Drier says it well, "If we are ever to enjoy life, now is the time. Not tomorrow or next year. The best preparation for a better life next year is a full, complete, harmonious, joyous life this year."

Be well,

Eric Platt  
Acting Superintendent of Schools