

To: Superintendent Meloche
Board President Saidel
Board Vice President Neary
Members of the Cherry Hill Board of Education

cc: CHEA President Steve Redfearn

August 31, 2020

Our continued hope that you and your families are well during this unique time in our lives. As always, we appreciate your leadership and all you, our Custodial Staff, the Return-to-School Committee, and other staff members have done to assist our return to school in September. We all look ahead to a day when we can return to our building safely.

With the 2020-2021 school year starting in little more than a week, we remain concerned regarding the conditions we will be facing. We feel our staff has not had the time and resources for a safe return. We feel academic successes, in addition to the social/emotional development of our students, will not be achieved by returning to the classroom next Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at the present time. We are writing to request the following five stipulations:

1. We request that all staff is provided adequate PPE (personal protective equipment) so that we are safely able to return to the building and classroom, including (but not limited to) masks and face shields, but also plexiglass shields to surround student as well as teacher/staff desks, and ample space and restrictions to successfully socially distance.
2. The HVAC System is verified safe by an independent certified engineer guaranteeing that the system takes in and produces the appropriate amount of fresh air, dampers are in working order, as well as confirmation of the last time the dampers in the HVAC System were calibrated prior to our return to work.
3. The disinfection process for between class, bathroom visits, etc. be clarified, and ample supplies for the cleaning process that is required to maintain a safe environment.
4. All scheduled staff development days for the 2020-2021 school year are moved to the start of the year, including the two extra school days in our district calendar which exceed the state mandated 180 days, so that staff, faculty, etc. are properly trained in LiveStreaming and all aspects of Hybrid/Remote Instruction.
5. A location be designated for students that need to eat breakfast in the mornings so that they are not without PPE in their homerooms/classrooms.

Once again, thank you for your continued leadership during this challenging time. We long to return to our building and work with our students. Please understand our concerns listed above are in relation to the health and safety for our students, our cohorts, ourselves, and our families. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

CHEA Members from The Alternative High School for Cherry Hill