

Superintendent Meloche,
Cherry Hill Public Schools
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace
Cherry Hill, NJ, 08034

Dear Dr. Meloche,

Creating a Return to Learn Plan during the current pandemic was a tremendous amount of work. You care about the wellbeing of each member of the Cherry Hill community and we are sure you weighed each decision that was made very carefully. We know that you, other central and building administrators, buildings and grounds employees, the technology department, committees of parents and teachers, and other support staff have worked tirelessly to try to ensure a safe school opening and we are grateful. The plan that Cherry Hill Public Schools has developed sounds thorough; however, we feel that to best serve the needs of our community, this plan needs to be implemented slowly to ensure everyone is well-equipped to follow it. We strongly believe that more time is needed to:

- communicate clear expectations to staff about how instruction is to be delivered,
- explain how the curriculum has been modified for instruction this year,
- train staff in expected virtual learning platforms,
- help staff understand what precautions have been taken to provide healthy airflow in the building, and
- be sure staff clearly understands what protections are available to them and students, and what they should do if they are confronted with non-compliance.

This can not be done during only two in-service days. Therefore, we ask that all in-service days for the year be scheduled for the beginning of the year. We also ask that student days be changed to the required 180 rather than the scheduled 182, giving an additional two days to the beginning of year professional development for a total of 6 full days of teacher training/information. We know that this will help us be more prepared and to feel safe as we begin the year, resulting in more effective learning for our students.

You make it very clear that you value all staff at Cherry Hill Public Schools, and know that you will thoughtfully consider our request. It is our hope that you will bring our concerns to the attention of the BOE, and request a change in student start date.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do during this very stressful time. We look forward to hearing from you in response and to hopefully being truly prepared to return to learn.

Respectfully,

CHEA members of A. Russell Knight School