

ENGLEWOOD ON THE PALISADES CHARTER SCHOOL

ANTHONY BARCKETT, M.ED.
DIRECTOR

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DR. SHIRL BURNS
PRINCIPAL

March 3, 2021

Dear Englewood on the Palisades Charter School Community:

We hope that this letter finds our teachers, staff and families both healthy and safe.

As schools are continually faced with making a critical decision as to the opening of their school doors during this COVID-19 Pandemic; we once again assessed our local and state data to help us determine whether it is safe for our students and staff to move forward to a Hybrid learning model.

Based on the present COVID-19 updates which includes the numbers of cases in New Jersey as a whole, the Northeast Region which is reporting a current activity level of High, and the city of Englewood data specifically, has prompted our institutional decision for our students and staff. As reported by the New Jersey Department of Health, as of Tuesday, February 23, 2021, the City of Englewood Health Department reports a total of 2,331 known positive COVID-19 cases of Englewood residents and a total of 72 cumulative deaths of Englewood residents. As stated in the report "it is likely there are more positive cases that have yet to be identified".

With this information, on Wednesday, February 23, 2021, it was recommended to our Board of Trustees that we will extend our remote learning throughout the Third Marking period, which will lead up to the end of this school year; or until the COVID-19 data at a later date in the school year warrants a change in our decision. Our local office of the New Jersey Department of Education has been notified of this decision.

In addition to the COVID-19 data listed above, as stated in previous communications, we are very concern with the structure of our building that does not provide our students and staff adequate space to allow for the required social distance of 6 feet for their movement throughout the day, during their arrival and the dismissal of students from school. In addition, we must not ignore our ventilation system in our Middle School that does not allow for the appropriate amount of air flow due to the structure of our building, and the design of the allotted area, which must also be taken into consideration.


Once again, as administrators reflecting on our responsibility to protect our students, families, staff, and teachers from potential risk to themselves and their families; and not having control over variables that are so critical to the health and safety of our students and staff has amplified our priority of health and safety first.

The Englewood on the Palisades Charter School will continue to work towards the goal of bring our students and staff back into our school building. However, until we are able to accomplish

this, we will continue to provide our students a virtual learning experience that is engaging and effective.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our entire EPCC Community for your unwavering support during these challenging and changing times. WE ARE WHO WE ARE BECAUSE OF YOU!

With Best Regards,



Mr. Anthony Barckett, Director



Dr. Shirl Burns, Principal

Additional Updates:

The end of the Second Marking Period is Friday, March 12, 2021.

Report Cards will be available on OnCourse for Parents review on Monday, March 29, 2021 at 3:00pm.

Parents can request a paper copy of student report cards.

School is closed on Friday, April 2nd, for Good Friday.

School is closed the week of April 5th -9th for Spring Recess.