

Moonachie Public Schools

ROBERT L. CRAIG SCHOOL
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Moonachie Families & Friends –

On Monday afternoon, Governor Murphy announced that local districts have the ability to 'relax masking among students and staff in their buildings given extreme weather conditions'. The current heat wave and the humid summer air, constitutes an extreme weather condition. This afternoon, we have received guidance from the Department of Education.

The heat, compounded with mask wearing, has everyone concerned. As our building is not entirely air-conditioned (some classrooms have A/C, some do not), we will practice the following, effective immediately, for the remainder of the school year.

- 1) Outdoor masking will be optional for the remainder of the school year. If you wish for your child to keep their mask on while outdoors, please inform your teacher of your wishes and we will make sure his/her mask remains on. Otherwise, masks will be removed when outside. The remainder of this week (except for Friday, which has forecasted rain) and all of next week, temperatures are forecasted to be in the 80s. The forecasted temperatures allow us to practice this recommendation of removing the outdoor mask requirement.
 - a. Social Distancing, to the best extent possible, remains in effect.

- 2) Classrooms Without Air Conditioning: Last night we recommended for these teachers to utilize increased indoor 'mask break' protocols. This 'mask break' procedure is exactly the same as we currently use for Lunch and Snack in the classrooms. If your child's classroom does not have air conditioning, your teacher will, or already has, posted an additional letter explaining this. Should you wish for your child to not participate in the indoor 'mask breaks', please inform your teacher and we will ensure your child's mask remains on. 'Mask Breaks' are at the discretion of the teacher. Additionally, we have identified alternative locations in the building, which are air conditioned, where classes can safely move to provide relief throughout the day.
 - a. Social Distancing is unchanged.
 - b. Increased ventilation is unchanged.

- 3) Rooms with Air Conditioning: Mask protocols remain unchanged.

If you wish to switch from Live to Remote, for the remainder of the year due to these new procedures, please inform Ms. Weigelt in the main office of your intentions.

Thank you for your understanding and patience. As guidance from the State continues to change, we work to make the safest decisions possible and in a timely manner.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at (201) 641-5833 or jknipper@moonachieschool.org.

Stay Well.

Best



James Knipper
Superintendent/Principal