

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

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11 December 2020

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

We will be implementing a scheduling change to reduce screen time based on the consensus from our stakeholders via our Remote Learning Survey. This schedule will be effective Monday, December 14, 2020.

Key Points about our modified schedule:

*Meets the State Dept. of Education guidelines for required instructional time of 4.5 hours per day.

*School day will now end at 2:15 p.m.

*Lunch will be reduced to 30 minutes; 12:15-12:45 p.m. (will still coincide with lunch pickup).

*The structured day portion (including scheduled specials) will conclude at 1:15 p.m.

*After 1:15 students may work independently offline (projects, independent reading, writing, other assignments) or teachers will be offering supportive learning, small groups or teacher conferences for struggling learners. Your child's teacher will schedule this accordingly. This allows us to better support struggling learners and offer individualized instruction.

*From 2:15 - 3:05 teachers will be available for office hours for students who wish extra help or clarification of assignments.

*We are returning to our original Wednesday/shorter day model. All learning concludes at 1:15 p.m.

You will hear from your child's teacher in regards to the daily classroom schedule. Overall, this model reduces your child's screen time by up to 1 hr. and 50 minutes. Thank you to everyone for your participation and communications; we value your opinion. As always, if you are facing a special circumstance, please contact your child's principal. Our goal at this time continues to be returning to school on January 19th, 2021, if not sooner.

Best regards,

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Wendy V. Yatsenick Principal Bethlehem Elementary School

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