

# Glassboro Public Schools

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Dr. Robert Preston  
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Lisa Ridgway, MSM, QPA  
Business Administrator

Dr. Mark J. Silverstein, MBA, Superintendent of Schools

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September 10, 2021

Dear Glassboro School District Families,

I know that I speak for all of us when I say that it has been a joy to have students back in our schools. While there was some concern about the transition back to full-day, in-person instruction and eating lunch in school, children thrived upon returning to their normal learning environment.

### **Transportation and Special Board of Education Meeting**

As most of you are aware, the shortage of bus drivers greatly impacted transportation this week. We know that the beginning of the school year is a busy time for families. We apologize if the busing disruption made the week more difficult for you.

Many of you may not realize that we are in a Shared Services Agreement with Delsea to provide Transportation Supervisory Services to support transportation. We saw this support as crucial with the return of all of our students. Unfortunately, the startup to the school year was not what we had hoped for in terms of the timeliness of busing pick-ups, dismissals, and the Transportation Office's communication with parents regarding delays. Glassboro School District prides itself on transparency and communication. What transpired was unacceptable, and I apologize for that. I have met with Delsea officials, and they are committed to resolving this. Our drivers are to be commended for doing the best they could under very trying circumstance.

As we mentioned in our earlier message, we adjusted dismissal times for today only. However, beginning Monday, we are altering the regular dismissal times for GIS and GHS to tackle transportation delays and ensure that the older students are released prior to their younger siblings. GIS will now dismiss at 1:27 p.m. each day, and GHS will dismiss at 1:40 p.m. Rodgers, Bullock, and Bowe will dismiss at their regular times.

We also invite you to a **Special Board of Education Meeting** that will address transportation on **Monday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m.** You can participate in person at Glassboro High School or virtually. Participation information will be posted under the Welcome GPSD Families of our website.

Our district is understaffed by eight drivers. Some resignations took place right before the start of school year. Similar shortages are taking place throughout New Jersey. We encourage any individual, parent, or part-time staff member who is interested in driving for the district to apply for one of our positions after exploring obtaining a Class C CDL and the proper endorsements. [Click here for a website that provides helpful information.](#) If you need additional information, please reach out to Assistant Transportation Supervisor Diane Veight, [dveight@gpsd.us](mailto:dveight@gpsd.us). School Bus Driver postings and other job postings can be accessed from the Employment Section of our website.

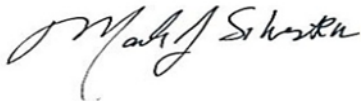
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### **Upcoming Survey**

In the upcoming weeks, the district plans to survey parents as to whether they would like to have the option of regular COVID testing available at school for their children. This would be free of charge. Organizations that offer this would want a minimum number of interested participants. We believe it would be a beneficial health precaution. We will provide additional information on the survey once it is released.

Thank you for all that you do. Please enjoy a restful weekend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark J. Silverstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Mark J. Silverstein  
Superintendent