



# Principal's Update

Week of 2/22/21



## Message from Michele

Hello Parents/Guardians & Staff,

I hope this week has been a good one for you. At ADS, this week was a busy one filled with staff meetings, IEP meetings, and many discussions and preparations as we plan for the re-opening and the remainder of the school year. As we move into March next week, I am hopeful that the warmer temperatures of spring are upon us. I look forward to opportunities for getting outdoors and experiencing the joys and new life of spring. As I wake in the morning, I hear more birds chirping, and see the mounds of snow and ice melting away. The transition of the seasons, the decline in COVID-19 cases in our state and counties, and the greater availability of the vaccine, all are helping to keep me hopeful and optimistic on the new horizon ahead.

The end of February will make six months since I started at ADS. I continue to settle into my role, and learn more each day to help develop long term goals for our future. I have grown so comfortable and gained much insight into our fantastic school! While the pandemic has made for some bumps in the road, I look to the future of ADS with great enthusiasm and optimism. The leadership team and I are working to plan the same exciting events so many are familiar with for the remainder of the year. Next week we kick off Read Across America and celebrate Dr. Seuss. Look for information on this fun week in your child's learning packet! We have started discussions for future events such as the prom, picture day, graduation, talent show and carnival. We hope to be able to offer these activities during the rest of the year in a way that is safe for all. If you have any ideas of programs or events that you would like to see at ADS, please don't hesitate to share with me. I am always open to ideas that are for the betterment of our students and ADS family.

Wishing you all a safe week! For those of you counting down... 7 school days until we return to in-person learning.

~Michele ☺

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## RE-OPENING UPDATES

- This week Gloucester County finally reached the **Orange Zone** on the Path to Zero website. Today the average was 23.6 new COVID-19 cases per 100,000.
- Looking at various COVID metrics, the counts of positive cases are decreasing on all levels.
- Today school districts were notified of our reopening date of March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Today transportation companies and bus drivers were notified of our reopening date. (They may begin to reach out to parents to confirm transportation needs)
- **IMPORTANT**-Parents were sent survey's this week in your child's instructional packet regarding learning options for you child. Please select if you wish for your child to:
  - **Option 1** – Return to school- 5 full days. All instruction and related services will be delivered in school during the normal school day.
  - **Option 2** – Receive remote instruction and remote related services from home.
  - **Option 3**- Receive remote instruction at home, but will come in to school for scheduled therapy sessions. (Parent/guardian is responsible for transportation)

**Return the survey in the self-addressed, stamped envelope.**

Remote learning will continue to be an option for students until June.

Should you have any questions about re-opening or the continuation of remote services, please reach out.

## ADS NEWS

- **Read Across America- Dr Seuss Week: March 1<sup>st</sup>-March 5<sup>th</sup>**



- **March 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal Days- Parent/Teacher conferences**