



## Pine Brook School

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Dear Incoming Pine Brook Families,

We are excited to welcome you to the Pirate Family in just a few short months, and know that this transition can be both overwhelming and exciting. While we were unable to have a traditional orientation, we have done our best to provide an overview of life at Pine Brook that answers questions that students have (How do the lockers work?) and also questions that families might have (Tell us about the curriculum at Pine Brook). We know this does not replace the end of the year trip to Pine Brook students were looking forward to, but we have a thoroughly narrated video for you to enjoy as well as a powerpoint.

I have included two links for the orientation. The [first link is a basic slide presentation](#) that families/students can click through at their own pace. The [second is a narrated video](#) guiding families through the slide presentation. I would recommend that you first view the second link in its entirety (it's about 25 minutes long), and then use the first link to meet our teachers or review information.

There is much we do not have answers to regarding the reopening of schools. We presented what typical life at Pine Brook is like, but please understand that elements of this presentation may not be accurate when your children begin school in September. We are patiently waiting for the specific reopening guidelines, and will be in contact with you as we know more information. If your child is feeling apprehensive or anxious after watching the orientation video about starting school in September, please contact Ms. Comforti, our school counselor at [caitlincomforti@mersnj.us](mailto:caitlincomforti@mersnj.us).

Common questions you may have:

***Will there be a locker event/Chromebook distribution as I've heard about in the past?***

We are planning for Chromebook distribution, but are awaiting reopening guidelines to see if a locker event can be held safely for students and families.

***Will there be Intramurals at Pine Brook?***

We are not sure and need to await further guidance. If we do have intramurals, a physical form will need to be completed by the date specified in future guidance.

***Will there be instrument lessons/band and orchestra at Pine Brook School?***

Please see the included registration [letter](#) and [link](#). We are waiting for school reopening guidelines but are requesting that if you think your child would be interested in either continuing or starting to play an instrument that you do indicate so as early as possible. Registration does not require participation in music lessons, but it does allow us to prepare for the potential of your child's inclusion in our music program.

***How will I know updates over the summer?***

It is essential this summer to check your email as well as the Pine Brook website. We will provide information to our families as we know it. Be sure to register for the Pine Brook Backpack on our website.

We are already preparing for the arrival of our incoming students, and are confident we will have a great year together. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,  
Julie Szustowicz  
Principal

Allison Rogers  
Assistant Principal