



West Orange Public Schools
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Superintendent of Schools

J. Scott Cascone, Ed. D.

November 19, 2021

Dear West Orange Public School Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

I hope this message finds you well.

Recently, the Board President, Vice President, and I had the pleasure of attending a Council of PTAs meeting where the topic of cafeteria food services was discussed. You may be aware that meetings similar in nature have been on-going at our schools which involve various stakeholders including the Regional Support Specialist and the Director of our contracted food purveyor. The information shared by parents, students, and staff is very valuable and, as with all constructive feedback, has been taken to heart. As always, Maschio's lead management has once again demonstrated a willingness to entertain possible changes, map out what can and cannot be done at a district level regarding the handling of sustenance in our cafeterias during this phase of the pandemic, where and when possible, and move forward responsibly with the considerations of safety for our students and staff remaining top priority. Additional communications will be made in this regard should any changes be made in our school cafeterias.

WOBOE Meeting November 22: Please note that the next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Monday, 11/22 with the public session beginning at 7:30PM. The meeting is live and in-person and can also be viewed on the [district YouTube channel](#). The Board invites anyone unable to attend in person to submit questions on both agenda and non-agenda items utilizing the Google form which is activated Friday evening and closes at 4pm the day of the meeting. The following link will take you to a landing page at which you may obtain access to the form, as well as the instructions for viewing the live stream option. [BOE Meeting Information](#).

Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccines for Ages 5-11: [Essex County](#) is offering vaccines for COVID-19 for children ages 5-11 at various locations including the K-Mart located at 236 Prospect Avenue in West Orange.

Travel Guidelines: as it relates to the pandemic and as stated in my communication on [November 1](#), please be mindful that the CDC offers guidance for those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated should travel be unavoidable during the Thanksgiving holiday.

The district schedule is abbreviated next week because of the Thanksgiving holiday. I feel it is appropriate that I express my gratitude to our students and their families, and I give thanks to the many district employees who serve them on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Scott Cascone".

J. Scott Cascone, Ed. D.
Superintendent