

Educators, school staff members, students, parents, and community members around the state have been expressing their concerns about schools actually being safe for face-to-face learning in September.

After a statewide discussion, consensus was built around some key points.

- 1) Instead of starting in-person learning this September, all schools should be focused on a <u>phased approach</u> that allows educators, school staff members, parents, and students focus on making sure proper sanitation protocols and training are in place, including "Right to Know" trainings, professional development for trauma informed learning, and robust remote learning. Relationships need to be established between families and staff to support our students for the 2020/2021 school year even before buildings are opened.
- 2) School buildings should not reopen for in-person instruction until we have reached a benchmark of 14 days with no new cases.
- 3) All local associations must be equally represented on school reopening committees.
- 4) All school staff and students are provided with necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- 5) New Jersey must apply for an additional ESSA waiver for standardized testing for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 6) The state continues to uphold a moratorium on new charter schools and extends that moratorium to include the expansion of existing charter schools.



We only have one chance to get it right. One life lost will be one too many.



Monday July 27th - Call County Superintendents

Tuesday July 28th - Phone Zap: Call Murphy and state offices, circulate petition

Wednesday July 29th - Social Media Blanket Day

<u>Thursday July30th - Regional Bridge Takeovers</u>

Friday July 31st - County Superintendent Barnstorm

Monday August 3rd - Trenton Motor March





Monday July 27th Call your County Superintendent's Office

Make phone calls to your county superintendent to share your concerns about safety of in-person instruction. Encourage your friends, colleagues, and family members to make calls as well. Use the script below to begin your phone call but also feel free to add your own personal story to the conversation.

Share on your social media account that you made your call, showing others that we have a right to express our concerns!

Sample Script

Hello, my name is _____ and I live/work in _____. I would like to express my concerns to the Interim County School Superintendent about returning to any in-person instruction this September. We must keep our school buildings closed to continue to fight back against Covid-19. Data and information about the virus is still being collected and there is too much that we do not know. We should not be putting out students, our staff, or any of their family members into potential life-threatening situations. We need to consider a phased reopening of our school buildings and concentrate our efforts on improving distance learning and supporting the social and emotional needs of our students while maintaining everyone's safety.

Thank you.

Join the #RefuseToReturn National Movement

Take a selfie of yourself holding a sign with a message about keeping school buildings closed and doing a phased in reopening and the #RefusetoReturn hashtag.





<u>Tuesday July 28th</u> Phone Zap - Make your phone calls!!

PEOSH: Gary Centifanti - (609) 984-1863 Department of Health: (609) 292-7838 Governor Murphy: (609) 292-6000

Senator Ruiz, Chairperson of the Senate Education Committee - (973) 484-1000 Kevin Dehmer, Department of Education Interim Commissioner - (609) 376-9070

PEOSH is an office within the state government that stands for Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health. They are responsible for our working conditions. Contacting them will be another avenue of applying pressure to the Governor and the state to make sure that our demands are met.

OSHA Guidance for Preparing Working Places for COVID-19
OSHA Protecting Workers During a Pandemic

Sample Script

Hello, my name is _____ and I live/work in _____. I would like to express my concerns to this office about returning to any in-person instruction this September. We must keep our school buildings closed to continue to fight back against Covid-19. Data and information about the virus is still being collected and there is too much that we do not know. We should not be putting our students, our staff, or any of their family members into potential life-threatening situations. We need to consider a phased re-opening of our school buildings and concentrate our efforts on improving distance learning and supporting the social and emotional needs of our students while maintaining everyone's safety. Thank you.

Additional legislator call script

Sign and share the petition - bit.ly/NJOWIS

Change.org petition started by Somerset County Education Association



NJ21UNITED #ONLYWHENITSSAFE Week of Action Toolkit



Wednesday July 29th **Blanket Social Media**

Use this Facebook Frame for your profile



Social Media 'Power Hours'

9-10 AM

12-1 PM 7-8 PM

Join everyone on twitter to increase pressure!! Hashtags: #OnlyWhenItsSafe #DemandSafeSchools #RefuseToReturn

Targets:

New Jersey @NJGov Governor Murphy @PhilMurphyNJ Lt Governor Sheila Oliver @LtGovOliver NJ Department of Health @njdeptofhealth NJ Department of Education @NewJerseyDOE NJ Department of Community Affairs @NJDCA NJ Department of Children and Families @NJDCF Tammy Murphy @FirstLadyNJ

Example Tweets

Share your story!





Thursday July 30th Bridge Takeovers

Come join NJ21United on _____ at ____ AM/PM for a takeover of _____ Bridge. We will stand together in a nonviolent act of disruption to declare that schools are unsafe to reopen. We need you to bring your homemade signs and banners. We encourage livestreaming and posting of photos on social media. Bridge takeovers are a fun way to bring public attention to this serious situation, so grab your friends, grab your signs, and join us! #OnlyWhenItsSafe





Regional Bridge Takeover Information

Locations may change at last minute. Check for updates.

Northwest

Main St & Division St, Somerville, NJ 3 PM

Northeast

Paramus Route 4 - 12 PM 165 W, NJ-4, Paramus, NJ 07652

Central

Belmar - 10 AM 905 River Rd, NJ-35, Belmar, New Jersey 07753

South

<u>Vineland - 1:30 PM</u> 2216 W Landis Ave, Vineland, NJ

Gloucester Premium Outlets - 4 PM
100 Premium Outlet Dr, Blackwood, NJ 08012

Directions for organizers

Sign in QR code. (Look below!!)

All regional bridge organizers, please make sure you have people scan this code and fill out the form so we can get a count!

Bring some extra masks with you to the event in case anyone is in need of one.





Printable QR Code





Friday July 31st County Superintendent Barnstorm

Planned Events

Local pressure is always effective!! Visual and vocal is the best way that you can make an impact!

Ideas for action at your local county superintendent's office:

<u>Sign Blast - Last Will and Testament Demonstration</u>

Visit your County Superintendent's office early in the morning (or even the night before) and sign-blast them!

Get out some of your old political campaign signs that you have lying around and cover them with large white paper. Take a large marker or some paint and write #OnlyWhenItsSafe!! Do this on both sides so that it is seen from the office and from the road.

Place them on the public property in front of the county superintendent's office.

Don't forget to take a picture!!!







Shoe In

Come and join NJ21United on ____ at ___ AM/PM. We will place pairs of shoes outside of the ____ County Superintendent's Office as we declare that schools are unsafe to reopen. Each pair of shoes should be accompanied by a sign or a letter explaining your reopening concerns. The shoes, including sandals, boots, dance shoes, sneakers, high heels, will be placed in neat rows and will be a temporary monument for those already lost to COVID and those who may be lost to COVID if we return to schools. We encourage livestreaming and posting of photos on social media. #OnlyWhenItsSafe





Motor March

Practice getting ready for August 3rd Motor March and plan your own with this guidance.

Car Painting Ideas and Messaging.

Sample Facebook Event Photos

Sample Press Release





Create your own county petition and collect signatures to deliver to your county superintendent!





Monday August 3rd
Trenton Motor March

Share the sign up link so we can get a tentative count and share more information <u>bit.ly/NJ21MotorMarch</u>

More Information

Our Week of Action culminates with a Motor March on Trenton! The ultimate decision to continue remote learning lies with Governor Murphy and the Department of Education, and they need to hear our voices as well. To make sure they do, we will decorate our cars with #OnlyWhenItsSafe signage, car markers, flags, and anything else you can think of.

When: Monday, August 3rd, 2020 at 12:00pm

Where to meet: Meet in the parking lot outside the Department of Education at 12:00pm on August 3rd. We will proceed out from there onto Rt. 29.

What to bring: Your car and signs.















