



July 21, 2020

Dear Hillside Public Schools Families,

The Hillside Public Schools is excited to announce the continuation of our partnership with Stepping Stones to provide families before and after-school childcare. Moreover, due to the current public health emergency, we enthusiastically announce we will utilize Stepping Stones to provide families full day child care at Hillside Public School facilities, based on demand.

As you may be aware, on June 26, the New Jersey Department of Education released state wide guidance for the reopening of schools entitled, "The Road Back, Restart and Recovery Plan for Education" ([linked here](#)). This document established a set of health and safety standards for districts to adhere to. As outlined, schools, when conducting in-person instruction, must minimize the number of students permitted in a building and implement a hybrid instructional model ([linked here](#)) following additional health and safety safeguards. Moreover, the plan emphasizes the need for school district's to be prepared to shift to remote instruction at any given point in the school year based on public health data and trends.

We realize the hardships this may cause to families and are pleased to offer Stepping Stones as a childcare option when your child is engaged in remote learning/home instruction. Please complete the pre-registration form available on our website, if you intend to use Stepping Stones as a childcare provider during the 20-21 SY. The form provides their weekly rate for before/after/and or academic (full day) care.

We will also work with Stepping Stones to provide families options for remote or in-person registration. We look forward to, what will prove to be, an exciting year of teaching and learning. Please remain safe and healthy. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sincerely,

A. Robert Gregory
Acting Superintendent
Hillside Public Schools