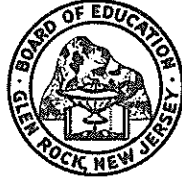


# GLEN ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Paula Valenti, Ed.D**  
Superintendent of Schools

valentip@glenrocknj.org



620 Harristown Road  
Glen Rock, NJ 07452-2398  
(201) 445-7700 ext. 8950  
Fax (201) 389-5019

March 17, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

At the March 16 Federated HSA meeting there was a discussion regarding the rationale for the recently announced return of emergency days; it bears repeating for all district families.

First – The return of unused emergency closing days (which hasn't happened in over 10 years) is a stipulation of the negotiated agreement with the GREA.

Second – Although the published 2015-16 school calendar includes a statement that unused emergency days would be returned beginning with May 31, then May 27 and so on, the calendar was approved in July of 2015. This was far in advance of the establishment of testing dates for certain state exams, including NJ ASK Science, PARCC and Biology Competency, which conflict with the published plan.

Third – In reviewing all school calendars across the district, the number of dates available for closure without conflict due to staff or student activities or established holidays is *extremely* limited.

**Finally - Please know that the potential for a district closure remains in effect should there be inclement weather, or some other type of emergency, before the use of the returned emergency days. Therefore, IF there is a district closure BEFORE the use of the returned emergency days please be advised the district would open 3/24, followed by 3/28, 5/27 and 5/31.**

The district recognizes that the return of these four days impacts family planning and appreciates your understanding of the above factors that guided the decision-making process.

Our aim is to work cooperatively with the community to continually improve all aspects of operations and communications.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

*Paula Valenti*

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