



August 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Bergenfield schools are now back in session and the unofficial start to Fall has arrived. The staff and Trustees of the Bergenfield Public Library wish you and your student a successful school year and are here to support your child's educational journey. This pandemic continues to affect all aspects of our lives and the 2022-2023 school year will certainly be no exception.

The Library is happy to serve as a safe space for students after school and is planning fun afternoon programs for your child. However, due to continued public health restrictions related to COVID-19, we are forced to make several changes to our policies and procedures that may impact your child's general use of the Library building for this school year.

For the 2022-2023 school year, middle school age children (Grade 6-8) will be allowed in the building unattended, but there will be a reduced amount of seating and equipment available so as to maintain safe social distancing in the Children and Young Adult Rooms. An overflow area will be set up on the second floor to provide additional seating. Children are not permitted to sit on the floor or aisles at any time, nor are they allowed to congregate in groups in the public bathrooms. Because of these space limitations, we strongly recommend that parents make alternate arrangements for after school child care.

As a reminder, the Library is a public building open to all individuals. It is not the Library staff's responsibility to provide supervision or to care for children or their belongings while parents, guardians or caregivers are not present. In addition, all visitors are required to follow the Code of Conduct, which includes our exterior grounds. Any student who does not follow the Library's Code of Conduct will be asked to leave the premises immediately. We encourage you to review the policy ahead of time with your child so everyone is aware of the rules. All Library policies can be found via <https://www.bergenfieldlibrary.org/library-policies/>

The Library is still very much committed to serving Bergenfield students during this new school year to ensure their academic success and are pleased to continue offering the free virtual tutoring service Brainfuse. Students communicate with live online tutors in real time and is available to all students from the public computers or from any computer with internet connection from 2pm-11pm 7 days a week. To use Brainfuse, all you need is your Bergenfield library card number. To get started, visit <https://www.bergenfieldlibrary.org/tutoring/>

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

Sincerely,

Allison Ballo

Allison Ballo
Library Director
aballo@bergenfieldlibrary.org