



## NEW JERSEY SENATE

STEPHEN M. SWEENEY  
Senate President  
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April 14, 2021

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John Jennings, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
High Bridge School District  
40 Fairview Avenue  
High Bridge, New Jersey 08829

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding vaccination allotments for school district personnel.

I agree and understand the sense of urgency for all residents, especially those working in essential roles, in regards to being able to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. I have strongly supported distribution to our educational community as quickly as possible.

I am pleased that the New Jersey Department of Health announced that educators are currently eligible for the vaccination. On Saturday, March 6, I joined in welcoming the first educators to the Gloucester County Megasite for their vaccination. This marks a crucial step forward in our ability to provide a safe learning environment for teachers, administrative staff, and students.

I will continue to support all efforts to ensure our schools can open in-person, including ensuring teachers are able to access vaccinations.

Thank you again for contacting my office.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Sweeney  
Senate President  
State of New Jersey

Enclosure  
SMS/jb

# YOUR MONTHLY UPDATE FROM TRENTON

## FOR NEW JERSEY'S THIRD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



March 2021

### COVID-19 Vaccine: The Push to Protect Teachers



Senate President Sweeney again visited the COVID-19 vaccine “mega-site” at Rowan College of South Jersey, this time to announce a new initiative to inoculate educators effective immediately.



Senator Sweeney previously approached the Gloucester County Board of Commissioners and Gloucester County Administration to plan the expansion of vaccine eligibility to accommodate teachers and support staff by integrating them into their daily vaccination routine without disruption to its current schedule.

“Teachers, transportation workers, public safety workers, and so many more have been at the forefront of this pandemic,” said **Senate President Steve Sweeney**. “They are essential workers and it has been a priority of mine and Gloucester County to get these individuals the vaccine they deserve so they can continue to safely serve our communities.”



During his visit, the Senate President observed teachers receiving their vaccines and again offered his appreciation to volunteers and front-line workers for their ongoing work to vaccinate South Jersey constituents. In addition to teachers, childcare workers in licensed and registered settings are also eligible for the vaccine.

Starting March 15, 2021, the following individuals will also be eligible for vaccination:

- ▶ Public and local transportation workers, including bus, taxi, rideshare, and airport employees, New Jersey TRANSIT workers, and Motor Vehicle Commission staff
- ▶ Public safety workers who are not sworn law enforcement or fire professionals, including probation officers and fire safety inspectors
- ▶ Individuals experiencing homelessness and those living in shelters, including domestic violence shelters

### Need Your COVID Vaccine? Here's How to Get Started:

- ☐ Pre-register for the vaccine: <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov>
- ☎ New Jersey COVID-19 Phone Line: 855-568-0545
- ☎ Gloucester County COVID-19 Hotline: 856-218-4142
- ☎ Cumberland County Department of Health: 856-327-7602
- ☎ Salem County Health & Human Services: 856-935-7510 ext. 8421



### Burzichelli on the Budget

Deputy Speaker Burzichelli, vice-chair of the Assembly Budget Committee and chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, released the following statement regarding the state's budget for the coming year:

“With a strong revenue forecast on the horizon, we are now beginning to see the benefits of the sound fiscal policy decisions we've made over the last three budget cycles. Continued funding for property tax relief programs, the addition of the \$500 Middle Class Rebate, and a full payment made to the state's pension system will go a long way toward rebuilding financial resiliency for New Jersey seniors and families. This fiscal budget cycle is focused on recovery as well as fueling economic growth throughout the state. Creating jobs for residents and increasing support for small businesses that have been greatly impacted this year will be critical as we move forward and regain a sense of normalcy. The real truth is that the people of New Jersey need a lifeline after enduring the pandemic this past year. Now, the legislature will get to weigh in and do our part to ensure the state stays on the right fiscal track,” said Deputy Speaker Burzichelli.



### Reminder: Homestead Rebate

Assemblyman Taliaferro reminds Third District constituents that the Homestead Benefit Program, also known as the *Homestead Rebate*, which provides property tax relief to eligible homeowners, will be paid to eligible taxpayers beginning May 2021.

For most homeowners, the benefit is distributed to your municipality in the form of a credit, which reduces your property taxes.

For more information on New Jersey's Homestead Benefit Program, including eligibility, click [here](#).