

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300 Phone: (908) 284-7561 Fax: (908) 284-7656 <u>kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us</u>



March 27, 2020

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Families,

In my letter to the community on <u>March 13, 2020</u>, I shared that the District would reevaluate the closing of schools on March 25. After consulting with the Hunterdon County Health Department and hearing Governor Murphy's address to the State of New Jersey on March 26, 2020, the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District will remain closed until further direction from the Governor's Office. Governor Murphy's direction to close schools follows the March 16, 2020, <u>Executive Order No. 104</u>, which stated that schools would stay closed as long as the Executive Order stays in place.

To comply with the Governor's order:

- 1. The District is using a combination of methods to deliver home instruction. Parents and students should use communication from their classroom teacher(s) to receive learning links, communication, and instruction.
- 2. Parents will continue to need to notify their child's teacher in the event that their child is ill and unable to do schoolwork from home.
- 3. All school buildings are closed to the public, students, parents, and all visitors until further notice. Over the next week, staff may be entering our buildings to quickly gather instructional materials needed.
- 4. The originally scheduled District Spring Break will remain as planned. April 9 and April 20 are emergency closing days. However, one of these days will be used to make up for March 16 when students were not in school and virtual learning was not yet in place. It is anticipated that a revised calendar will be distributed after it is approved at the April 6 Board of Education meeting.
- 5. The district will continue to provide meals to eligible families at the school nearest to them every Monday and Thursday during home instruction, beginning March 30, during these time slots: 9-9:30 a.m. at Copper Hill School, 9:45-10:15 a.m. at Barley Sheaf School, 10:30-11 a.m. at Francis A. Desmares School, and 11:15-11:45 a.m. at Robert Hunter School. Also, meals can still be picked up at RFIS from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All eligible families will be notified of this new meal pick up schedule by phone, email, and text today.

I recognize the pressures of working from home, guiding children through educational experiences, and maintaining balance for families. I want to extend my thankfulness to the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District community; students, parents, staff, faculty, and our residents too. We are all on this learning journey together. Each member of the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District misses our students. We are deeply saddened about lost experiences and opportunities. We wish our students were back with us and that we were all together in our schools. We want the best for our students; their health, education, and their futures.

I believe we are only at the beginning of a long process. We still have issues to address, problems to resolve, and a virus to battle. We must have patience, maintain our hope, and work hard to support each other. As we navigate these uncharted waters as a community, we must remember that we are not alone. We have many connections from which to draw strength. Please, if you need anything, reach out to your child's teacher, school counselor, building principal, or any of our District administrators. We are all here for you.



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We all have a responsibility to follow the guidance of our health officials; we can stay connected virtually and through phone calls to loved ones, but maintain social distancing. Your health and the health of all of our loved ones may depend on this guidance.

I will continue to communicate weekly with our community to provide the latest updates.

Sincerely,

Koi M. Gann

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools