



HENRY HUDSON TRI-DISTRICT

Atlantic Highlands Elementary, Highlands Elementary, and Henry Hudson Regional School Districts

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Dr. Susan E. Compton, Superintendent of Schools
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Dear Parents, Guardians and School Community:

I am sending out this letter today to give you another update regarding our continued work in handling the challenge of this COVID-19 pandemic. I want to express to you as the school superintendent of the Atlantic Highlands, Highlands and Henry Hudson Regional school districts, that I am extremely proud of our staff and students regarding our remote/virtual learning instruction. It is also crucial that I express my gratitude to the families who are supporting us with online instruction.

As you know, effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020, our schools sadly closed their doors and began delivering all instruction virtually with support packets for our early primary grades. Today, as I sit behind a desk in an empty office, another week begins with remote learning. The classrooms and the halls are empty, and we miss our students and staff in a way that words cannot express. These are unprecedented times in education, and today's generation will reflect on this time as a chapter in history like no other. Our students will be reflecting on these events for decades and will be talking someday to their children and grandchildren about their experiences. I have witnessed the strength of New Jersey, during the recovery from Hurricane Sandy. As someone from a different state, I can tell you that "Jersey Strong" truly represents the strength and endurance of this state, like no other place in the county. On behalf of the three boards of education, the administration and the staff, I can tell you that we will be here to support your children and to continue educating and supporting them in the best way possible during these uncertain times.

Sections 14 and 15 of Governor Murphy's March 21st Executive Order 107 outlined the responsibility of school districts as we move forward during this public health crisis. We will continue with our food service programs to provide pick-up meal services for those students that meet the free and reduced requirements.

Please understand at this time, with the support of the boards of education, we will probably have to extend remote learning until Monday, April 20, 2020. At the present time, Governor Murphy has closed all public schools in New Jersey until March 31, 2020. However, I am sure that we will be receiving an update regarding school closures from the Governor's office very soon, as well as from the Commissioner of Education. Therefore, the principals, administration and I are telling our staff to continue to prepare for remote learning at this time. As a reminder, our school calendar remains unchanged and Spring Break will begin on April 10th and continue through April 17, 2020.

Although our school buildings are closed during this time, we are always here for you. We encourage you to reach out to administration if there is any way we can support you, or if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you, as always, for your support as we navigate these times together.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Compton

Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools