March 19, 2020

Dear North Plainfield School Community,

We have embarked on the journey of remote learning, and while it is different, I am proud of the hard work everyone is putting forth. I appreciate everyone’s support and patience with this. Out of an abundance of caution and due to the most recent Executive Order by Governor Murphy, we have decided to extend the closure of our schools until we return from spring recess on Tuesday, April 14, 2020. Please know this return date will be contingent upon the Governor allowing schools to reopen.

- Food service change: **Beginning Tuesday March 24th, the schedule will change to one serving time daily.** This will take place each day between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm at the Middle School gym foyer. At the above designated time, lunch and the next day’s breakfast will be distributed to eligible students. This new schedule will be in effect each regular school day that we are closed for instruction. Menu items will be posted on the district website. Questions may be directed to the District Food Service Manager at 908-769-6000 x3108. If you are experiencing hardship and cannot pickup, please contact me via email or your school principal.

- The Food Bank Network of Somerset County is helping local families experiencing food insecurity. You may access the North Plainfield food bank the last two Saturdays of each month from 10:00 am - noon at the Vermuele Center (corner of Greenbrook Road and Clinton Avenue). Please note that the food bank asks all new clients to provide a home address and identification for proof of residency purposes only.

- We have created a tech_help@nplainfield.org email address. Students can send technology issues to this email, and we will do our best to resolve all we can remotely. At this time, due to the circumstances of the virus, we are unable to meet with students. As guidelines change, and restrictions are removed, we will be in contact with students to ensure the issues are resolved as soon as possible. If parents need to get in touch with Technology, they can call 908-769-6000 x3136 and leave a voice message. We will be checking this voicemail regularly.

- We are proud to announce a new addition to the collection of resources made available for our community. As you are aware, the district homepage currently includes the "Coronavirus Update/Links" page, where a variety of resources can be found to assist our teachers, students, and parent community. As the situation of Coronavirus continues to evolve daily, we are mindful of the impact it is having on all of us. Starting today, applications focused on mindfulness and relaxation will be available and accessible on the page, "Virtual Relaxation," designed for community access to activities and exercises that assist and support you during this difficult time.
District devices were distributed to students on Friday, March 13th. Principals will ascertain if there are any remaining computers in their buildings and will communicate this if applicable.

K-5 Report Cards will be available online through Genesis Parent Portal on March 25th. No paper copies will be printed at this time due to the emergency closures. A parent tutorial is available on the district website. The tutorial will guide access to student report cards in Genesis. Please access the "Coronavirus Updates/Links" page, and "Genesis Parent Portal" for more information.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be a part of this staff and this caring community. Please stay safe and healthy during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Michelle Aquino, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools