



NORTH BELLMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710

Phone: (516) 992-3000 • Business Office Fax: (516) 992-3019 • Superintendent Fax: (516) 992-3020

March 6, 2020

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nina Lanci

President

John Ferrara

Vice President

Melissa Cmar-Grote

Rosemarie Corless

Jo-Ann Erhard

Marie L. Testa

Superintendent of Schools

Carol A. Eskew

Deputy Superintendent

Janet Pollitt

*Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum &
Instruction*

Jacqueline Rehak

*Assistant Superintendent
for Business*

Good afternoon North Bellmore Community:

As we continue to monitor the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the North Bellmore School District continues to discuss the possible impact this may have on our school community. As reported at last evening's Board of Education meeting, our district has a Pandemic Plan that will be implemented should an extended school closure be necessary for any reason (i.e. closures due to weather, illness, power-outages, etc.). The Pandemic Plan is part of the Districtwide School Safety Plan which you may access via our website at www.northbellmoreschools.org.

While there is no indication that closing schools for an extended period is imminent, North Bellmore School District will utilize our district website and Blackboard Connect to maintain communication with families, faculty and staff. Fortunately, North Bellmore has a variety of digital learning materials and platforms that will be implemented to provide continued instruction if an extended school closing occurs. Information and details regarding accessing instructional assignments will be shared if necessary.

Be assured that the district remains in close contact with the Nassau County Health Department regarding the most recent developments pertaining to COVID-19. The Nassau County Commissioner of Health will direct the district if a specific student is not permitted entrance to school and provide us with guidance related to handling such matters. In addition, the New York State Education Department is providing guidelines for districts to follow related to cleaning protocols, preventative measures and overall health and safety regulations.

Under the direction of our Director of Facilities, our custodial staff is working strategically to properly cleanse and sanitize all areas of our buildings to prevent the spread of germs. In addition, our nurses, teachers and administrators continue to educate students on best health practices: routine hand washing; covering coughs and sneezes, refraining from touching the face, eyes and nose and limit hand contact with others. We appreciate the support of our parents in reinforcing these preventative measures at home and in keeping your child home when he/she is sick. You may refer to the following two resources that are designed to support parents/educators in speaking with children about COVID-19:

Parent Guide: [https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

Video: <https://www.brainpop.com/health/diseasesinjuriesandconditions/coronavirus/>

The district will proactively work with public health officials and follow their expert recommendations to best ensure the safety of our students, faculty, staff and community members. As always, thank you for your support as we work together to maintain a safe and healthy environment.

Sincerely,

Marie Testa
Superintendent of Schools