

STAMFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



1 River Street, Stamford, NY 12167 (607) 652-7301

Dr. Glen A. Huot
Superintendent

Wednesday April 8, 2020

Dear Parents,

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Governor has announced that NYS schools will now remain closed through April 29th. The COVID-19 emergency has evolved rapidly, leading to uncertainty as to when regular in-school classroom instruction will be able to resume throughout the state and whether students will be adequately prepared to take the Regents examinations. As a result, the Board of Regents and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) have cancelled the June 2020 administration of the NYS High School Regents Examination Program.

Regarding graduation, the Interim Commissioner Shannon Tahoe stated earlier this week, "During this time of great uncertainty, the [NYSED] has developed...guidance to ensure that students who were on track to graduate this year will have that opportunity." The guidance focuses on ensuring learning outcomes and standards are being met, rather than on testing. We are paying careful attention to each order and each announcement and we will continue to provide updates to the school community as we receive them. Further information and details will be forthcoming. The Board of Regents and Interim Commissioner, who made these decisions, continue to focus on what is in the best interest of students - as we are.

With the recent closure of businesses across the state, many New Yorkers are at risk of losing their health insurance coverage as a result of COVID-19. The *NY State of Health* is committed to ensuring access to affordable, quality health insurance for all New Yorkers so they can get the care they need during this state of emergency. Many may be eligible for health coverage with financial assistance through *NY State of Health* due to their loss of coverage and income. *NY State of Health* opened a Special Enrollment Period last month for people who are uninsured, and the Marketplace has started an awareness campaign to let people know that *NY State of Health* is there as a safety net in difficult times like these. The *NY State of Health* can be contacted at www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov. If you have any questions you can contact the *NY State of Health* at **518-486-9102** or NYSOH@health.ny.gov. Please see further information on the District website.

To assist us in communicating with parents, if you have not already sent us an email address, please do. It will help us help your child during this time of remote learning. Please send an email to the following address parentemail@stamfordcs.org (when sending us the email please include in the message the level of internet [broadband] capacity you currently have at home (high speed; access but limited; none, etc.)). There is detailed information on the District webpage regarding the need for parent emails and how you can send us this information.

The recent State decisions are unprecedented. I want to thank our parents, students, Board of Education, faculty and staff for your continued dedication and support during the statewide school building closures. With continued partnership and teamwork, we can overcome any challenge. *Be well. Be safe.*

Respectfully,

Dr. Glen A. Huot
Superintendent