

Miller Place Union Free School District

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March 27, 2020

Re: Update COVID-19

Dear Miller Place School District Community:

Earlier today Governor Andrew Cuomo ordered all New York State schools to remain closed for an additional two weeks until April 15, 2020.

Throughout the last several weeks the COVID-19 crisis has certainly challenged us all to adapt to a “new normal.” I would like to recognize and thank our operations staff, IT staff, and administrators for their efforts in helping our District, students and families transition to these new circumstances. A special thank you to our volunteer Board of Education members, who like you, are attempting to navigate these new uncharted waters.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our deep appreciation to all the medical and first responders in our community for their service and commitment to the health and safety of all of us who live and work in the Miller Place and Sound Beach communities.

Fields and Facilities:

They remain closed to the public. This includes playgrounds, tennis courts and the High School track.

Emergency Food Service Program:

The grab-and-go meal service program continues to be available for our students and families in need. On Mondays and Wednesdays at the Miller Place High School Cafeteria outside entrance, the distribution is split into two pickup times based on last names (if possible). Corresponding last names and times are as follows:

A to L 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

M to Z 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For updated information please visit: <https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/Domain/503>

Emergency Childcare Program:

In coordination with SCOPE Education Services, the District is providing emergency extended school-age childcare for students ages 5-12 for parents/guardians in the Miller Place, Rocky Point, and Mount Sinai School Districts who are First Responders and/or Medical Personnel. Registration is also available to currently enrolled Miller Place SCOPE families. This program operates Monday – Friday at Andrew Muller Primary School from 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information visit:

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/cms/lib/NY02208586/Centricity/Domain/8/Connect%20Ed%20Message%20-%20COVID-19%20Update%20-%202023-18-20%20Childcare%20-%20Letterhead.pdf>

Any essential worker needing child care for **children ages birth – 4 years old** please call the Child Care Council of Suffolk (CCCS) hotline at 646-926-3784 to be connected with a referral specialist who will identify available programs that meet each parent's needs. For your information, there are currently 195 licensed and registered child care programs open and available to serve children under age 5 in Suffolk County.

Instruction:

Additional information regarding updated learning opportunities and platforms will be sent to parents in a Connect Ed message on Sunday evening. We are in the process of training faculty on Office 365 that will create new systems of communication and instruction between teachers and students.

As a District we are dedicated to students learning and achieving their goals. We are aware that households have been turned upside down and our District is committed to making sure your child maintains and advances their education during this pause in their lives. We are dedicated to do what we can, to the extent possible, that they do not miss out on the opportunities they would have experienced had we not been faced with this international health crisis. Thank you again for your anticipated cooperation and understanding as we all journey through this time of temporary change together.

Since the initial closure of schools two weeks ago, the Miller Place School District has worked diligently to ensure continuity in the many services we provide our students and community. Resources noted below were posted on the District's website on March 17, 2020:

Andrew Muller Primary School:

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/Domain/957>

Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School:

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=5909>

North Country Road Middle School:

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=5916>

Miller Place High School:

<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/Domain/955>

In closing, during this time of extended school closure, it is vital for community members to continue to practice social distancing in an effort to flatten the curve and hopefully end the spread of the COVID-19. We will continue to communicate with you to update you accordingly as confirmed information becomes available.

Stay safe ~

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools