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April 16, 2020

Dear Morris Hills Regional District Parents/Guardians and Students,

We sincerely hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and safe during this very difficult time. On Wednesday, April 16, 2020, Governor Murphy issued an Executive Order closing all schools through Friday, May 15, 2020. As a result of this order, the Morris Hills Regional School District will remain closed until the order is lifted and we receive clearance from local and state agencies to return back to school. Toward that end, both Morris Knolls High School and Morris Hills High School will remain closed and will continue with virtual home instruction through Friday, May 15, 2020. All school activities and athletic practices and contests remain canceled until further notice. We will reassess the situation and provide a status update on May 15, 2020 to all members of the Morris Hills Regional District.

During this extended school closure period, we will continue to evaluate and reassess our current virtual instruction program in order to meet the needs of our students. As stated in our previous letter, beginning Monday, April 20, 2020, our teachers will be reaching out to their classes via, Google Hangout, Youtube, Screencastify, Flipgrid or other modes of live instruction to help them feel more connected in the upcoming weeks.

We are currently assessing our end of year plans for events and celebrations. At this time, no decisions have been made with regard to the status of the Junior Prom, Senior Prom, or Graduation. We will be providing updates in the near future when decisions are made.

As a reminder on March 24, 2020, Governor Murphy announced that the State of New Jersey is cancelling all statewide student assessments for the spring 2020 testing window. This includes the springtime administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA), ACCESS for ELLs, and the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment.

Please continue to visit our district website (www.mhrd.org) for resources and guidance related to COVID-19. We are aware of the stress and anxiety that is accompanying school closure, and we encourage our students and parents/guardians to reach out with any questions or concerns. Thank you all for your continued support, patience, and flexibility. We remain committed to supporting our students, parents, guardians, staff, and community members during these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Jencarelli, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Ryan MacNaughton, Principal of Morris Knolls High School

Dr. Todd M. Toriello, Principal of Morris Hills High School