

Miller Place Union Free School District

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Sunday, March 29, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are thankful to the Miller Place and Sound Beach communities for providing continued academic, social and emotional support to your children, as we make necessary changes in providing alternative learning environments for the Miller Place School District's 2,700 students.

On Friday, Governor Cuomo announced that schools will remain closed through April 14th. Parents and guardians will be receiving emails from your child's teachers and secondary school guidance counselors during the day on Monday, March 30th and Tuesday, March 31st. This email will include information such as how to contact teachers and counselors. Students should continue to review the supplemental materials that are accessible on the District website, as teachers will be reviewing these assignments with their students and providing feedback on Wednesday.

Our faculty and administrators are collaborating intensively to provide new distance learning experiences for our students and staff. District administrators and building principals have started using Microsoft 365 Teams for daily virtual meetings regarding the establishment of new distance learning plans. While these distance learning platforms will provide new learning experiences, our students, parents, and staff will be learning how to best access these robust resources *together*. Communication will be essential to the implementation of this new digital learning platform. You will be receiving more detailed information about digital learning resources and assignments from your child's teacher. The following week of instruction will include digital learning experiences through the Microsoft 365 platform. Students and parents will be provided with more specific information regarding login, passwords, etc.

If you should have difficulty reaching your child's teacher(s), please contact the building principal. If you or your child is having difficulty accessing your child's instructional materials, please contact your child's teacher(s). Please contact the building principal if you are having difficulty with login or passwords or if your home does not have Wi-Fi access. If you do not have any access to a laptop or other device for distance learning please contact the building principal.

If you need assistance sending an email to your child's teacher through the School-Tool email, you can find instructions on the District website main page. If you require further assistance email Kurt Roth at kroth@millerplace.k12.ny.us.

The Special Education Department will continue to provide you and your child the support they need in these ever-changing times. On Monday, your child's related service providers will begin to reach out to you

regarding services such as counseling, parent counseling and training, behavioral consultation, and your child's 2019-2020 Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The Special Education Office is working to reschedule Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School (CPSE) Special Education meetings. Some of these meetings may have to take place remotely with the chairperson calling you on the phone for you to participate. As in the past, please look for your meeting invitation via your email address in School-Tool as well as your United State Postal Service mailbox. If you should have any questions related to Special Education Services for your child, please call Central Office and leave a message at 631-474-2700, extension 799.

New York State Education Department (NYSED) Assessments:

The NYSED has announced that the following state assessments have been canceled for the 2019-20 school year: Grades 3-8 English Language Arts, Grades 3-8 Math, Grades 4 and 8 Science, NYSAA, and NYSESLAT.

AP College Board:

As per our communication with you on March 24th, please refer to the College Board website which can be found at www.collegeboard.org for more information.

Regents exams and course credit:

NYSED has not yet provided information regarding the administration of the June 2020 Regents.

Secondary Grading and Report Cards:

At this time, we are currently discussing, but it has not yet been determined how students will be graded in any courses or grade levels for the third quarter. These decisions will be made in conjunction with information and guidance anticipated from NYSED.

We understand that you may have several additional questions at this time. We will continue to provide you with information and updates as soon as the information becomes available. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, counselor, or principal as appropriate.

In the near future the District is working towards providing additional assistance for students and parents through a technology Help Desk. We will also look to provide distance learning information for students and parents on the District website. We also have plans to post and update an FAQ related to distance learning. We are here to work in partnership with our students and their families in this new digital learning experience.

We thank you for your continued support as we journey through this new instructional experience with Microsoft 365 as our digital learning platform. We are learning something new every day and we are looking forward to communicating and learning with our talented teachers and our incredible community. We are confident that this experience will provide us with technological resources to further strengthen our instructional foundation.

Be safe,

Dr. Marianne Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools