

## Upper Township School District

525 Perry Road • Petersburg, NJ 08270 Phone (609) 628-3500 • Fax (609) 628-2002 www.upperschools.org

March 9, 2020

Dear Families:

Earlier today, all Cape May County Superintendents met with our Executive County Superintendent and various officials from the Cape May County Department of Health to discuss COVID-19.

As a result of that discussion, please accept the following:

- 1. If schools are ordered to be closed by the Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Education **may** waive the 180 school-day requirement provided our District submits a plan for "home instruction" that would occur during the closure.
- 2. In the near future, administration will be working with staff to provide guidance and support for the creation and implementation of such a plan. In order to meet all requirements, the plan must:
  - a. Include equitable access to instruction for all students.
  - b. Include opportunities for special education and related services.
  - c. Include provisions for providing school nutrition benefits or services for eligible students.
- 3. ALL field trips (ANY trip to a place other than to one of our 3 schools) have been cancelled and unlikely to be rescheduled. Additional information regarding possible refunds, vouchers, etc. will be disseminated by me when available.
- 4. ALL assemblies, dances, concerts, performances, evening events, and sporting events will remain as scheduled. However, parents will have the opportunity to pull their children from such activities and will be asked to sign-off, sooner than later, to indicate future participation.
- 5. The custodial staff has received updated plans and directives regarding school cleanliness and disinfection protocols that will be followed on a daily basis.

Moving forward, I will be the point person in communication. To avoid confusion and misinformation, unless you hear it from me, consider it rumor or speculation; both of which should be ignored.



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While the next few months will be filled with uncertainty and apprehension, please know that I will do my best to keep you informed throughout the process.

Most importantly, the health and safety and the well-being of our staff and students remain my top priorities and every decision moving forward will have this commitment at its core. I thank you in advance for your continued understanding and support.

Yours in good health,

Mr. Palmieri