

April 8, 2020

Dear MCS Students and Families,

I hope this update finds you well and that you are managing the COVID pandemic and the extended school closure as best you can. A lot has happened since last week when I provided the last update. In addition to some local reminders I need to share, we have received new information from Governor Cuomo and the New York State Education Department this week that is important to share as well.

School Closure Extended through April 28th

Governor Cuomo announced Monday that all schools will be closed until April 29th (through April 28th). As indicated in my letter last week, instruction will continue through the regularly scheduled April vacation week. Teachers will be providing learning experiences that will keep students engaged in learning but will modify the scope and process during this time. Google Meets/Hangouts will not take place this week but teachers will continue to be accessible through Google Classroom, email, etc.

I can only imagine how challenging this is for parents and students. That being said, the longer this closure continues the more important it is for students to do their work and for parents to provide support, guidance, and whatever else is needed (bribes, threats, etc.). All of our teachers are being very reasonable with the amount of work they are asking students to complete during this closure but it is very important that we keep the students moving through the curriculum. Clearly, none of us caused this situation but we all need to work together to help each other through it. If students use this closure as an opportunity to “slack off” and not complete work because they’re not “in school” it will only complicate matters for the student. We certainly don’t want that but we (the school and your children) need continued parent support and assistance.

Regents Exams Cancelled

Any student who was scheduled to take a Regents exam in June after completing the local course requirements are exempt from the Regents exam in that course. Students who pass the course for the year will be given Regents credit for the course.

School Provided Meals

We will be delivering meals for tomorrow’s lunch, Friday’s breakfast/lunch and Monday’s breakfast/lunch using our regular delivery tomorrow.

On Monday, April 13th, we will deliver meals for Tuesday through Friday of that week. Delivery will probably not take place until the afternoon sometime so please be on the lookout. Please continue to contact Mrs. Green with any meal program changes.

Materials Exchange

Today is the last scheduled learning materials exchange until after Easter Week. We will plan to exchange materials again on Tuesday, April 21st.

Report Cards

The third marking period has ended, report cards are being finalized and will be in the mail Thursday, April 9th. Parents who have established access to the eSchool Parent Portal will have electronic access prior to mail delivery. 3rd quarter grades consist primarily of the student work and assessments that were completed when the school closure began, which was at the seven week point. Students were also given the opportunity to increase their grade by turning in back work and completing new assignments for extra credit.

Please continue to regularly check for updates on the school’s website and Facebook pages. We are also using a new parent email list to distribute information. Again, thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time.

My best for a safe and healthy Easter Holiday Season.

Sincerely, Timothy F. Farrell