

Middle Township Board of Education

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Dr. David Salvo, Superintendent of Schools

March 10, 2020

Dear Families:

Yesterday, I participated in a meeting with all Cape May County Superintendents, our Executive County Superintendent, and county Department of Health officials on the topic of COVID-19. The focus of the meeting was to discuss any updated information regarding the virus, specifically what to do if schools are ordered to close by the Department of Health.

If schools are ordered to be closed by the Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Education has informed us that the 180 school day minimum requirement may be waived provided school districts submit a plan for home instruction to occur during the closure. Per the NJDOE, "The planned services should include equitable access to instruction for all students. Each preparedness plan should also address the provision of appropriate special education and related services for students with disabilities and the provision of school nutrition benefits or services for eligible students." It is my hope that we will not need to utilize this plan, but having an approved plan could help to preserve the last day of school as June 17th, 2020.

We have also been informed that the Centers for Disease Control and the County Health Department recommend canceling all field trips (ANY trip to a place other than our schools) through the end of the school year. 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 if doing so.

Also, our custodial staff has implemented enhanced school cleanliness and disinfection protocols, including disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects.

Moving forward, I will be the point person for all communication regarding the district's plan regarding the coronavirus. Unless you hear it from me, consider it a rumor or speculation.

I understand that these decisions may be an inconvenience to some but our main responsibility is to keep everyone as safe as possible given the unfortunate circumstances.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Salvo

Superintendent of Schools