

## MULLICA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT



Mrs. Donna Lesher
Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Maris Lynn Middle School Principal Mr. Andrew Weber
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Home of the Coyotes

March 11, 2020

Dear Mullica Schools Community Members,

Last week, the New Jersey Department of Education issued a directive to all school districts to develop and submit a plan to provide home instruction to all district students in the event of a health-related closure. The NJDOE indicated that implementing our plan to instruct students at home in certain specific circumstances would "count" as a day(s) of school for students. We were encouraged to make use of our technological tools to provide meaningful "virtual" instruction to students at all grade levels, including those students who require special learning accommodations.

This week the district administrative team and teaching staff from both schools collaborated on a plan to provide virtual instruction for all students in all academic areas which includes accommodations our students require. These plans may never be implemented, but by creating them, we have ensured the children of Mullica Township School District can continue receiving excellent instruction from their teachers, regardless of circumstance.

A point of emphasis regarding our plan:

• Our plan for virtual instruction will be implemented if the local Department of Health or the NJDOE requests and/or directs a health-related school closure.

There is no indication at this time that an aggressive move to combat illness through a school closure is imminent or even the first intervention required of the district. We continue to monitor on a constant basis information shared by the CDC, NJDOE, NJDOH, and local health officials. We will also continue to work with our local partners, the Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District, and other educational organizations to ensure the district can be responsive to the evolving circumstances. Field trips will be evaluated on a case by case basis, prioritizing the health and safety of our staff and students.

As mentioned previously, everyone is encouraged to follow common sense preventative measures to minimize the spread of the flu, COVID 19, and other viruses, including:

- Wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick and avoid contact with others.
- Place used tissues into a wastebasket and then wash your hands.

I will keep you updated with important information, as it is available. For now, you will find helpful resources at the <u>CDC</u>, NJDOH, Atlantic County Health Department

Sincerely

Andrew Weber Superintendent