



# Clark Public Schools

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March 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families doing well. I want to provide you with an end-of-week update regarding the impact of the coronavirus on our schools. As per the most current communication from the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), we can only close schools and receive credit towards the 180-day requirement provided that: (1) the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) or the local health department mandates the closure and (2) remote instruction is in place for our students. In our community, we remain at a low risk level at this current time with no confirmed cases. As a result, our local health department is unable to mandate a closure, and the NJDOH has yet to put this requirement in place. With that being said, we continue to closely monitor the associated progress. Nancy Raymond, Township Health Officer, and I are in communication many times throughout each day starting in the early morning until later in the evening.

Headed into the weekend, there is more time for changes to occur, either to our health status as a community or to NJDOE guidelines. As a result, we will be having our students take their needed textbooks and school materials home with them upon dismissal today so that they will have what they will need should a school closure be put into place beginning Monday, March 16. Again, we are not anticipating any local health changes. On the contrary and in light of what is transpiring around us in an attempt to create “social distancing,” there may be an adjustment to the NJDOE’s guidance.

I would recommend that you start to think about plans for the daytime care and supervision of your children because, in the case that we will need to close, we could be entering that closure without knowledge of the closure’s length of time. On another note, below is a link to a technology readiness survey. Please complete this survey so that, in the event of a school closure, we can get the needed tools into our students’ homes.

<https://forms.gle/4BscNdTEATztfcPG6>

Thank you for your cooperation and flexibility in dealing with the uncertainty that accompanies this situation. I have every confidence that we will continue to demonstrate our strength as a school community as we move forward. I plan to write to you again this coming Sunday with an update and, in the meantime, we are here should you have any questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

*Edward Grande*

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