



# Pearl River School District

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**Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

May 1, 2020

Dear Pearl River School Community,

At today's press conference, Governor Cuomo announced that all schools will remain closed for the remainder of this school year. This is difficult news for all of us, and especially for our high school seniors, but I believe we know the decision is made in the best interests of everyone's health. Please be assured that our faculty, staff, administrators and Board of Education, all remain committed to doing our best for all of our students.

On April 1st, we refined our remote learning plan to better meet the needs of our school community. Since the initial transition to remote learning, our teachers have been implementing a number of online tools that allow them to teach new content, communicate with students, evaluate work and assess student progress. We understand that learning any new tool can be overwhelming for teachers, parents and of course our students, and appreciate all of the efforts everyone is giving. Our Pearl River Remote Learning Website, (<https://sites.google.com/pearlriver.org/pearlriverlearning/home>) has many resources to assist families with these online tools. We have also vetted each one to ensure that they are secure and compliant with student data privacy regulations.

Our administrators and teachers meet regularly online to discuss the progress of remote learning and engage in problem solving to meet challenges that have arisen. Currently, we are finalizing our 4th quarter grading plan. Principals will share information on grading with families very soon.

Our school principals, with faculty and staff teams, have been discussing plans for a number of events that traditionally take place, the most significant being high school graduation. Plans for a remote graduation ceremony as well as remote Moving-Up ceremonies for our 4th and 7th graders will continue to be developed. As our plans progress, we will also continue to monitor news from the Governor's Office and the Department of Health so that we are aware of any changes to the current guidelines for social distancing. Also on the calendar were our orientations for students and parents in grades 4 and 7 to move to a new building. Our principals will provide information to you on how this will be accomplished.

We are aware that staff and students may have left personal belongings in school buildings. We will make arrangements for staff and students to come to the schools to retrieve personal items. We are finalizing the procedures that will have to be in place to accomplish this task safely. You will receive detailed information from your child's principal regarding the dates and times that access to schools will take place, along with the specific guidelines to be followed.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools during this crisis.

Sincerely,