



Clark Public Schools Carl H. Kumpf Middle School

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Richard Delmonaco
Principal

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Dear Kumpf Parents and Guardians,

As we begin our second week of distance learning, I just wanted to take this opportunity to tell you how proud I am of all the Kumpf students and how well they have adjusted to this “different” type of learning. I also appreciate the cooperation the staff has received from the parents and guardians during this period of transition.

The Kumpf teaching staff has done an exceptional job setting up distance learning for their students, but please understand this is all new to them as well. The teachers are working extremely hard to provide students with a meaningful learning experience. The administration is in constant communication with the staff providing support and suggestions to keep students engaged. The teachers are grading assignments and assigning work daily to keep students on track.

With this ever-changing environment, I am sure you have many questions about school, grading, standardized testing, scheduling and other school related items. Below is some information that you might find useful:

- **School is closed until at least April 3, 2020.** Nobody is permitted at the school.
- All activities (meetings, trips, sports, awards, etc.) are cancelled through April 6. I will have additional information about the cancellation of other April events later this week. I am anticipating many April events will be cancelled or at least postponed.
- The third marking period is scheduled to end on April 8. Right now, we are planning to end the marking period on that day. However, we may find it necessary to adjust the end date depending on whether we return to school or continue distance learning. More information will follow about this in the next week.
- NJSLA testing is still pending. Testing is scheduled to start April 30 for Kumpf. However, the Federal Government has given states permission to postpone/cancel state testing this year due to the coronavirus. I am anticipating the NJ Department of Education will provide us guidance about standardized testing sometime this week.
- For eighth grade parents whose child is going to a school other than ALJ, our guidance counselors are still working. Please contact Mr. Acosta or Ms. Crincoli about any items you might need.
- Spring Break is scheduled for April 10 to April 17. Regardless if we are doing distance learning or back at school, this break will occur as scheduled. If we are doing distance learning, students will not be expected to login and do work remotely during the break.

Please continue to have your children login during their normal class time for each class. The teachers will be available to students during this time. Teachers will give students sufficient time to complete assignments and students should adhere to deadlines. The teachers will also monitor students' engagement during the required class time (i.e. logged into Google classroom). If your child is having difficulty meeting these requirements make sure to communicate with his or her teacher so a reasonable alternative solution can be put into place. Keeping to a normal class schedule as close as possible will benefit your child greatly during this time. As a side note, kTV is telecast live each day at 8:05 a.m. (Great job kTV!). This provides a good starting point for your child each school day.

As we continue to follow the Governor's "Stay at Home Order" I encourage you and your children to do your best to comply with this order and at the same time stay healthy. Encourage your child to exercise at home (walk up and down the stairs, do push ups and sit ups, do chores) anything to keep active. It is also important for students to drink water. Some professionals are recommending taking "sips" of water every fifteen minutes. Take "brain breaks" while doing work (many of our teachers have posted ideas for brain breaks). Finally, continue to wash your hands thoroughly to prevent the spread of germs (20 seconds using soap and water or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol).

If you have any questions or concerns, please know Kumpf's guidance counselors (Mr. Acosta and Ms. Crincoli), the school nurse (Mrs. Kowlaski), the Child Study Team (Ms. Reilly and Ms. Camera) the content supervisors (Ms. Dias, Mr. Kalikas, Ms. Varshney), Mrs. Clarke and myself are all available to assist you and your child during this time. Feel free to reach out to any of us if we can be of assistance.

I hope you and your families remain safe and healthy during this difficult time. Hopefully we will all be back at school as a community in the very near future. Once again, thank you for all your help in keeping our staff and students safe and your cooperation with our distance learning program.

Best wishes and stay safe,

Rick Delmonaco

Rick Delmonaco, Principal