

## Principal's Log 2.27

Dear TMS families,

Since the Governor's announcement and the State of Emergency declaration closed our schools until March 31, 2020, we have all been living in unprecedented times. While we will continue to monitor the situation and update you, another great source of information is <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>.

Meanwhile, the middle school continues to function. Our teachers post work daily on our e-learning platforms and track students' progress in the Portal. The 3rd Marking period ends on April 17. Please check the Portal often and encourage students to stay up to date with their work.

The academics are very important, but completing the assignments has added value. It will connect students with each other and their teachers at a time when they desperately need as much normalcy as we can provide. Especially for adolescents, the social distancing remedy is very hard. Don't be surprised if your children become cranky. A great remedy for this is creativity, so dive into those art, and music assignments!

Today our teachers participated in professional development. They needed this time to continue the amazing work that they have been doing. The unexpected closing tested all of us, but our teachers really proved their professionalism by shifting to an e-learning environment as quickly as they did. There is more work to be done and we are thankful for the time to do it.

Lastly, our guidance department has reached out to you for music course requests for next year. Students can participate in strings, band and/or chorus. It's rare to be able to perform in all three. You will find the form in your inbox. Please take advantage of our wonderful music programs and send us your requests as soon as possible.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for your continued support. I know from experience with my three children that everything feels like homework right now. Hang in there. A few months ago I remember wishing that I had more time with my children. Well, I have it now and I am going to do my best to enjoy it. We will get through this together!

My Best,

Greg Stiefel, Principal

<https://twitter.com/GregStiefel>

Be sure to check out our website for PTA flyers, calendar snapshots, and other reminders. [http://tms.tuckahoeschools.org/201718\\_weekly\\_enewsletter](http://tms.tuckahoeschools.org/201718_weekly_enewsletter)