



LEARNING • ACHIEVEMENT • GROWTH • DIRECTION



POCANTICO HILLS CENTRAL SCHOOL

599 Bedford Road • Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. 10591 • 914-631-2440 • fax 914-631-3280 • www.pocanticohills.org

April 10, 2020

Happy Friday Pocantico Families,

If you are anything like me, it seems that we are floating in a time warp, as we adjust to our new normal, wait for additional information from the state and remember fondly the “good old days” (when my wife and I were empty nesters). Despite all our challenges, I am pleased to report that our students are still doing great things and our teachers are providing great educational experiences. Some things do not change!

While there has not been new information regarding our closure date (4/29), there have been several other important changes that I'd like to share:

- The budget and board election votes will occur after June 1st, more information to follow.
- The Regents examinations have been canceled for June 2020. All students who complete the required coursework will be issued course credit. Not taking the examination will not negatively impact graduation or a student's ability to transition into the next course. <http://www.nysed.gov/news/2020/state-education-department-issues-guidance-graduation-and-course-requirement-changes-due>

We will continue to keep you abreast of all changes as they impact our students, school, and community. All students who are currently enrolled in a Regent's course (Algebra or Living Environment) will receive a personalized letter from Principal Brown outlining the changes and associated impact.

We are excited to announce that our “Hot Spots” have arrived for those students who have notified the district of no home internet. These devices will ensure equitable access for all, with appropriate filters to keep everyone safe. If you have not contacted the school regarding issues of this nature, please do so ASAP. Also, if you are having problems with your district assigned devices, there are several ways to get support:

1. Notify your teacher(s) directly
2. Fill out the tech support form on our website: <https://lhric.service-now.com/student>

Thanks to the efforts of some great Pocantico Team members (Anne G., Carolina, et al), we have launched our Pocantico COVID-19 Response Page: <https://pocantico.pocanticohills.org/covid>. It is easy to navigate and contains a variety of community, state and school resources. It also features a staff video message page which is not to be missed!

Please continue to do your part and encourage and help your family and friends to social distance. The following video link illustrates the positive impact of our efforts and is worth a look! Sometimes the simplest explanations are the most powerful. <https://youtu.be/o4PnSYAqQHU>

Finally, let me express how proud I am of our community. We are always looking for new ways to help and support one another. Just this week, an outstanding mom/daughter team reached out to me with an idea on how Pocantico science classes could directly help our community. After several calls and emails, Mr. Cook and Pocantico's 3D printers started creating face shield frames for our frontline health professionals and first responders. Well done, we are so strong together!

Be safe and please do not hesitate to reach out to me,

Rich