



March 9, 2020

Dear Parents,

With the coronavirus/COVID-19 presumptively reaching Monmouth County I wanted to reach out to you to provide you with an update. The New Jersey Department of Health's (NJDOH) published guidance emphasizes that the most important thing for schools to do is to plan and prepare. Since my last correspondence on this topic, through continued communication with the NJDOH we have been doing just that. Our administrative team has been coordinating efforts with our school nurses and school facility personnel to ensure we have wellness screening in place for staff and students, recommended cleaning and materials use protocols in place, review of school events and class trips for cancellation or postponement, and continued education for staff.

Among these planning procedures, the guidance advises that "schools may be asked to close preemptively or reactively, therefore schools should be making plans for what to do if there are recommendations for closing schools or cancelling events." School closures will only count towards our 180 school calendar if the NJDOH mandates a closure, however, if necessary we are prepared to use built in make-up days to close. Today our staff met during our faculty meeting after school to design virtual and at-home learning opportunities in the event of a closure to support the continuity of all services for students. We are preparing to roll these out if needed.

To support our efforts within the district, we must all continue to plan and prepare within our communities as well. Today, the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders issued a statement regarding two presumptive positive coronavirus cases in Monmouth County, one of which is in Little Silver. Although this does not directly impact our schools, we share the advice of the Department of Health that symptomatic individuals should immediately contact their primary health care physician regarding testing measures. Please utilize the CDC website to obtain up-to-date information.

While we are actively monitoring the guidance from State and National Public Health Agencies, we continue to implore you to reinforce best practices for minimizing the spread of germs with your own children, including but not limited to:

Washing hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
Cover your coughs and sneezes Students and employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are advised to stay home and not come to work/school.

Information will continue to be shared as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Dr. John E. Bormann
Superintendent of Rumson Schools