



Oradell Public School District

Our children, our hope, our future

March 24, 2020

Dear Oradell Public School District Families and Staff:

The outbreak of COVID-19 has altered most aspects of public life, including the education of our children. As we continue meeting and mastering the challenges of this new dynamic, we are pleased to have been successful in providing virtual learning experiences to the students of Oradell. Please know our team remains committed to developing effective, engaging instruction in this alternate method, as we also ensure compliance with the critical health and safety measures which must be followed during this public health emergency. Our goal is to educate our students remotely until authorized to return to traditional school environments. We are further committed to the provision of related services.

Please review the following updates which you will find helpful:

1. New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy has applied for a waiver to eliminate this year's mandated state assessment program, scheduled to be administered this April. During his televised update of this date, the Governor stated he fully expects the waiver to be approved, and final confirmation will be shared with our district community once it is received.
2. The Governor has indicated that school will be closed for at least another two weeks. In response, the administration has responded to teacher requests for access to additional instructional resources. As of this date, there has been no word of schools re-opening; therefore, teachers will continue to plan instruction for students in two-week increments until notified otherwise by the Governor's office. To support staff who may need to enter the building, we will schedule individual teacher visits to our school to ensure that only a few teachers will be in the building at the same time. Following these visits, the custodial staff will continue the ongoing cleaning and disinfecting of the building. Everyone is adhering to the health and safety rules imposed upon us and we are grateful for the collaborative teamwork which has resulted in successful and safe learning thus far.
3. Please do not hesitate to email your child's teacher or any school administrator with a question or concern, and be assured you will get a swift reply. It's very important to keep communication between us strong in order to provide the best education possible to our students.
4. The next Board of Education meeting is at the end of April. We will be advising the public as to the procedure determined to be the best option for conducting the meeting, which must be held remotely as of this date. Please be assured there will be a way for the public to remotely provide comments and pose questions to the Board President for this meeting, and we anticipate having this process in place shortly.

On behalf of all in our district, we sincerely thank our parents for the Herculean job they are doing to support distance learning efforts—this participation is vital to the success of our shared work and we know it isn't easy. We miss being with your students every day so please be sure to tell them that we can't wait for our school to be bursting with the happiness that comes only when students are there.

Until we see one another again, please stay safe and continue to follow CDC guidelines to diminish the spread of COVID-19. Wishing you and yours the best of health.

Sincerely,

Barbara Longo

Interim Superintendent
Oradell Public School District