

HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

Fino M. Celano, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools fcelano@herricks.org

May 1, 2020

Dear Members of the Herricks School Community,

As you may know, Governor Cuomo announced today that all schools in New York State will be closed for the remainder of the academic year. We are all saddened and disappointed by this decision, which was necessary to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and community. Know that our administrative team has already begun the process of planning for virtual end of year events, such as graduations. You will learn more about the details in the weeks ahead. In addition, we have begun the conversation about planning for the reopening of school in September. These conversations are taking place at the district, state and county levels. We will be following guidance from the State Education Department and the CDC on how to safely bring students and staff back to school. There will be many logistical issues that will require proper planning as we focus on social distancing, proper protection and hygiene in order to keep everyone safe.

For the remainder of the school year, remote learning, "grab and go" lunch service and childcare for medical personnel and first responders will continue to be provided. More information about these services can be found on the homepage of our school district website. I want to thank our teachers, parents and students for the excellent work you are doing during these challenging times. As I have said before, we will prevail and come through this pandemic stronger, wiser and closer as a school community. As always, feel free to reach out to our faculty, administrators and mental health professionals if you need anything.

Regards,

Fino M. Celano, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools