



HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Office of the Superintendent

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April 1, 2020

Dear Members of the Herricks School Community,

I am writing to provide an important clarification to Governor Cuomo's last Executive Order to close all schools in New York State through April 15. The Governor's order makes it clear that all essential services, including *remote learning, child care, and distribution of food to eligible students*, is required to continue without interruption through the upcoming Spring Break period. As indicated on our school calendar, **Wednesday, April 8** will remain a professional development day for teachers, and remote learning will not be scheduled on this one day only. We will be providing our faculty with the opportunity to further develop remote learning techniques and resources on this day. Remote learning will take place during the rest of the break. We will be sensitive to the needs of students and faculty who celebrate religious holidays during this time period. All students who are observing religious holidays during this period will be excused from participation, and there will be no repercussions for any student who cannot participate or complete assignments because of a religious observance. You or your child should simply let your child's teacher know.

We recently received this clarification of the Governor's order from the State Education Department, stating that schools will be granted a 180-day waiver for the school year, provided that the school district "has exhausted and/or will exhaust any available time, including snow days and vacation days." We apologize for any confusion and thank you for your continued cooperation during this very challenging time. Stay well!

Regards,

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