

## HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Office of the Superintendent

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

March 23, 2020

Dear Herricks Families,

I hope that you are staying safe and well. As you are aware, Governor Cuomo has issued additional social distancing protocols in order to slow the spread of the Coronavirus. I urge you and your family to adhere to these strict guidelines for the safety of our entire community. Stay at home unless it is essential to leave, and try to keep a distance of six feet from others while you are out. Taking these precautions now will benefit our entire community into the future. In order to promote the health and safety of our children, we will be temporality closing all playgrounds at our elementary schools. The High School track and field will remain open for now, but please keep a safe distance from others while using the facilities. Also, please remember that bicycles and strollers can damage the surface of the track and are not permitted.

Our remote learning has been up and running since last Thursday. This is a new endeavor for us all and our teachers will continue to develop and refine lessons and activities for our students as we move forward. Ms. Guercin will be sending you an update about these efforts in the near future. We are all working hard to stay connected to our students and families. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email your child's teacher or principal. Our guidance counselors, school psychologists and social workers are also available to assist you and your child. In addition, the school district is offering a lunch service for our students while school is closed through the "Herricks Grab and Go" lunch program. Please see more information about this on the district website.

One of the unique things I have always loved about Herricks is the strong sense of community that exists here. While there is no official town or village called Herricks, we all identify strongly with who we are as a school district community. We are all part of that community: teachers, support staff, administrators, students and parents. It is during challenging times that we rely on the comfort, support and strength that is imbued within a sense of community. For that reason, I know that we are particularly well equipped to get through these challenging times together.

"Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think and twice as beautiful as you've ever imagined." -Dr. Seuss

We are Herricks strong and proud: this too shall pass. Enjoy the beautiful signs of spring that are blooming all around us!

Regards,

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