

Rockville Centre Union Free School District

Administration Building

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March 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

Governor Cuomo has issued an Executive Order called "New York State on PAUSE", which has temporarily suspended all non-essential services statewide. The purpose of this correspondence is to share information on the implications this has on our school district and community.

Working Remotely:

In accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order, with the exception of those deemed 'essential employees', staff members will continue to work remotely. Should you need assistance, please email your child's teacher, the building Principal or a member of the Administration staff directly.

Access to School Facilities:

In the Governor's Order, we must abide by the provision to only offer essential services. Therefore, until further notice, all students and/or parents will not be allowed access to the buildings, lockers or any part of the building for items they may need. In addition, the Governor has also ordered that all individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to non-contact activities and to avoid activities where they come in close contact with other people. Therefore, all District outdoor facilities will be locked with the exception of the Middle School and High School tracks, which will remain open for solitary activity. Realizing that most of our outdoor spaces cannot be fully locked, we ask for the community to follow guidelines set by the Governor in order to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Meal Distribution Update:

In his Executive Order, Governor Cuomo has identified the distribution of meals as an Essential Service. Therefore, the District is providing free "grab-and-go" meals for children in our District. This food service will be available weekdays while our schools are closed for the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis. Beginning Tuesday, March 24th, meals can be picked up at South Side Middle School only.

- Meals will be distributed between the hours of 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM at the Ohio Street entrance at South Side Middle School.
- Meals will be distributed via a "curbside" pickup outside of the door on the west side entrance of the building on Ohio Street. Please drive into the parking lot and pull up to the first entrance. Wait for a district staff member to come out to your car to deliver the meals.
- "Grab and go" free bagged meals are available to any child who is 18 years old and younger. Children do not need to be present for you to pick up their meals.

Please direct questions regarding this program to Mr. Robert Bartels: rbartels@rvcschools.org.

Special Education Update:

On March 22nd, a second update was sent via email to all parents of students with disabilities. This email outlines the most recent guidance from all New York State and federal agencies related to the provision of education and services to students with disabilities. Also included is information on the Rockville Centre School District response regarding online learning, and the provision of related services. The update is also available on the District website. Please read this important information, which will be updated as we receive additional information. CSE meetings are continuing according to the originally published schedule. Thank you for your cooperation in facilitating online meetings, which seem to be going very well.

Special education teachers and related service providers are in direct contact with their students and families to ensure that their students are accessing the online curriculum and to provide specialized instruction. Please contact Dr. Noreen Leahy at nleahy@rvcschools.org, for individual concerns and questions. Close communication between us is essential during this unique time and is our priority.

Enrichment Link Update:

The Enrichment link on our Remote Learning page on the school website continues to be updated with new activities. We have organized these links by subject area. We encourage your child to use these links, if they choose to do so, after completing their regular assignments.

Kindergarten through Grade 3 Remote Learning:

If schools remain closed beyond March 31st, we will shift to online Remote Learning for Kindergarten through Grade 3 students. The limitations placed on teachers and staff to work in groups will prohibit the creation of hard-copy packets. More communication and instructions will be sent to these parents if needed.

Testing:

The impact of the current situation is recognized throughout New York State and worldwide. During this time, at every level of government, the well-being of all students is being considered and has resulted in discussions concerning annual student testing.

International Baccalaureate Testing:

The International Baccalaureate Organization has canceled all tests in May. Mr. John Murphy, Principal at South Side High School, has sent an email to all students involved in the IB Program explaining in detail how credit will be awarded in all IB coursework.

New York State Grades 3-8 Testing:

The New York State Education Department has decided to cancel State Assessments for Grades 3-8 this year.

Regents:

No decision has yet been made regarding Regents Exams, however we will continue to update you as more information becomes available.

Technology Issues:

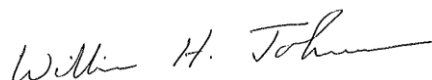
If your child needs assistance with technology or is having difficulty with the lessons, please be sure to contact your child(ren)'s teacher.

COVID-Self Reporting:

We continue to encourage anyone in the community who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive to email the District at COVID-selfreporting@rvcschools.org.

We will continue to provide you additional information as it becomes available to us and, to the extent possible, respond to emailed questions and concerns to the District. Let me end with a reminder again of the need during the extraordinary times to maintain social distancing and remind all family members to regularly engage in washing their hands and other hygienic safeguards. We are grateful for the collaboration between families, teachers and all staff in coming together to provide continuing educational experiences and support at home.

Sincerely,



William H. Johnson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools