



BYRAM HILLS

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

10 TRIPP LANE ARMONK, NY 10504

March 15, 2020

To the Byram Hills School Community,

We are sure that our school community has been following the news about the evolving state of the coronavirus, so we will refrain from recounting what the CDC, WHO, Departments of Health, NYS Education Department, Governor Cuomo, and the media have been sharing. Thank you for the community support and outreach regarding our decision to close our doors and move to an e-learning environment. We are fortunate to be in an outstanding community with a strong and unified Board of Education, dedicated staff, and incredible families.

The teachers and administrators have been working on our e-learning experience for your children, which will start on Wednesday, March 18th. Attached is the [Byram Hills e-Learning Guide for Parents](#) which provides important information to maintain the learning experience for your children. The document includes information by school building, important special services announcements, testing, and other pertinent information.

Entering Schools on Monday or Tuesday: Last week our schools were thoroughly cleaned in anticipation of any staff member, student, or parent who needs to access **personal materials** in their buildings on Monday or Tuesday. Students are not to take classroom materials. While we ask that no one enter our buildings as of Wednesday, March 18th, limited staff will remain at work as we maintain essential operations for our District. Security guards will be monitoring our campus and our facilities will be managed. Our schools will be re-cleaned and ready when we return.

Parents who have requested Chromebooks: Parents who requested Chromebooks will be contacted by the Technology Department for pickup times on **Tuesday, March 17th**.

Coronavirus Student and Staff Case Reporting: In the current guidance from the DOH, we are told that districts must report confirmed cases of student or staff members. Student and staff identity will remain confidential. Please contact the Superintendent directly in the event you have a confirmed case (student or staff only) so that we may consult with the DOH.

Confirmed Cases: In the event the District receives notification of a confirmed case of a student or staff member, all families and staff will be notified until we have been out of school for 14 days. The notification will ensure confidentiality for the student or staff member. The community will be notified of the grade level and building affected. There will likely be additional communication on a case-by-case basis.

Social Distancing: Please review important information about social distancing to keep your families safe. While every family will make their own decision about social distancing, we encourage you to read the attached information to help curb the spread of the coronavirus.

[Social Distancing- Johns Hopkins University](#)

[Social Distancing - CDC](#)

Calendar Questions: At this point, the NYS Education Department has not yet waived our 180-day requirement unless a confirmed case is identified involving a staff member or student. We are in communication with our local representatives and are asking for a reprieve. Once we receive final guidance about the 180-day requirement, we will notify you. Until then, our school calendar will remain as it is.

Thank you for your continued attention and collaboration as we work together as a school community. In conclusion, please know that all area superintendents have been meeting with County Executive George Latimer, Senator Shelley Mayer, NYSED Chancellor Betty Rosa, Interim Commissioner Shannon Tahoe, and Governor Cuomo's Executive Secretary, Dan Fuller. We have repeatedly advocated for school closures county-wide out of concern for our broader communities.

Sincerely,

Jen Lamia, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Scott Levy
Board of Education President