

Hanover Township Public Schools

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Michael J. Wasko
Superintendent of Schools

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March 12, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update regarding recent developments pertaining to the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). While there remains no immediate cause for alarm in Hanover Township, news of COVID-19 cases in New Jersey has raised public concerns over the past few days.

Based upon the information received over the course of this week, and in consultation with the local Health Department, Superintendents from the Regional School Districts, and the Hanover Township Department of Recreation, I have made the decision to cancel ALL field trips, large group events/activities, athletic games, and “indoor” recreation department activities held within our schools at least through April 9, 2020. Taking this approach will provide us with time to effectively monitor the situation and find a more appropriate date for these important events. It is my hope that most if not all of the events can be rescheduled after we return from Spring Break.

Please be reminded, if it becomes necessary to close our schools to protect public health, based on a directive from the New Jersey Department of Health or the local Health Officer, the District will not be able to bring staff and/or students into the buildings to retrieve materials and/or personal belongings. In this instance, the District will implement our Flexible Instructional Day/Digital Learning Plan. Through the use of PowerSchool, Google Apps for Education, Google Classroom, and other web-based programs, teachers will be in a position to communicate and provide instruction to students in a digital and/or electronic format.

Please know our planning and communication with health officials has been ongoing for several weeks. In addition to our usual precautions, the following actions are in place:

- regularly disinfecting common areas and high touch surfaces, using electrostatic sprayers
- meetings with various health officials and emergency management teams at the local, county and state levels
- meetings with the Regional School Districts as well as our District Administrative Team
- daily monitoring of COVID-19 news and information

Additional information and valuable resources regarding COVID-19 can be found by clicking on the following links:

- Center for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- New Jersey Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>
- Morris County Office of Health Management: <https://health.morriscountynj.gov/>
- Township of Hanover: <https://www.hanovertownship.com/>

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Thank you for your understanding, patience, and cooperation as we navigate through an unusual set of circumstances. If you have any questions pertaining to the cancelation of any event within your school, please contact your respective building principal directly. Please direct all questions related to recreation department activities to the Hanover Township Recreation Department.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Wasko

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