



Stanhope Public School District

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Alicia Finklea-DiCataldo
Principal

Steven T. Hagemann
Superintendent

Dr. Steven E. McHugh, Sr.
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

April 1, 2020

Dear Stanhope Families,

I hope this letter finds you and your families healthy and safe. First, I'd like to personally thank all of our students, parents, staff members, and community members for your continued efforts in supporting the needs of all learners during this challenging time. While the challenges we face are unprecedented, I continue to remain confident that we will persevere as a school community.

Governor Murphy's March 16th Executive Order No. 107 requiring all schools to close remains in effect. In recent communications, he has stated that, "The decision to reopen school districts rests with me [the Governor]. We will not be prepared to revisit the closure until at least April 17th, at the very earliest. The decision to reopen will be based on careful discussion with our public health and safety experts, and with our educators and districts." Although previous communications from our District have indicated that our expected date to reopen is April 20, I am asking parents to please be prepared for this closure to extend beyond this date. With the Governor not revisiting the topic of opening schools until April 17th at the earliest, I find it unlikely that we will be able to open school on April 20th.

In addition, all Federal and State mandated student assessments have been cancelled for the school year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. This includes the NJSLA testing (formerly PARCC), ACCESS for ELLs, and the Dynamic Learning Maps Assessment (DLM).

I'd also like to remind all families that the Sussex County Division of Health COVID-19 Hotline is open and available to provide support. Residents may call the Hotline number at (973) 579-9488 to speak with a Sussex County Division of Health (SCDOH) staff member or Sussex County Medical Reserve Corp volunteer. The Hotline's hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Additional information for residents can be found at the locations listed below.

- Sussex County Website <https://sussex.nj.us/covid19>
- 2-1-1 (NJ Department of Health)
- 1-800-962-1253
- Text NJCOVID to 898-211 (NJ Department of Health)

The Stanhope School District and I wish you continued success meeting these unprecedented challenges. We sincerely miss each and every one of our students and families. It is our sincere hope that you, your families, and loved ones are staying healthy and safe while practicing social distancing. Please know that we are here to help in any way that we can. We will continue to provide transparent and consistent communication as it becomes available.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hagemann', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Steve Hagemann
Superintendent