



# Elmont Union Free School District

CULTIVATING SCHOLARS AND GLOBAL CITIZENS

March 15, 2020

**AL HARPER**

*Superintendent of Schools*

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff:

**Every day brings new information concerning the spread of the COVID-19 and the means by which those in the health, governmental and school communities need to respond. First, at this time, there are no confirmed cases at any of the Elmont School District locations. We will continue to post updates on the school district website.**

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE, LAURA CURRAN HAS ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER MANDATING THAT ALL SCHOOLS IN NASSAU COUNTY BE CLOSED FROM MARCH 16<sup>th</sup> THROUGH MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**During this period, all 12-month employees, including administrators and clerical employees, are to report to work at Elmont Road at 8:00 am beginning on Monday, March 16, 2020.**

**Custodians and 12-month transportation employees are to report to work according to their regularly assigned work schedule.**

## **Cleaning and Sanitizing the Buildings**

1. Our custodial staff cleans and sanitizes high touch areas as recommended by the State which include, but are not limited to, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, and desktops.
2. The Governor's declaration of state of emergency releases us from the requirement to use green cleaning products which allows us to use a wider range of disinfecting cleaning agents that can clean and sanitize our buildings.

## **School Closures and Quarantines**

1. The Department of Health is very clear about how an exposure is defined and it does not include simply being in the same building as someone who was affected. In the event of a true exposure, the person affected is notified in writing by the Department of Health (*not an employer closing an office or word of mouth from a friend*).

## **Administrative Offices**

135 Elmont Road • Elmont, NY 11003-1635 • 516 326-5500, Ext. 42003 • Fax: 516 326-5574  
[www.elmontschools.org](http://www.elmontschools.org)

2. We want to assure you that IF we have a staff member or student diagnosed with Covid-19 in one of our buildings, the Department of Health will be monitoring each person affected and dictating the plans that we follow.
3. Any and all medical questions you may have should be directed to your healthcare provider.

### **Field Trips**

- We have cancelled all field trips until further notice.

### **Mental Health Needs**

- It is important that you are provided with information to assist in dispelling rumors and misunderstandings and to help address your children's concerns during this time. The District website links to up-to-date and valid information on the COVID-19 outbreak. Below are resources that address mental health needs of students and communities during an infectious disease outbreak. In addition, please know that while school is in session our Pupil Personnel Staff is standing by to assist you if the need should arise.

Coping with Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks,  
<https://store.samhsa.gov/system/files/sma14-4885.pdf>

Following are resources that may be helpful in talking to students about the COVID-19:  
Just for Kids: A Comic Exploring the New Coronavirus  
<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comicexploringthe-new-coronavirus>

How Do You Talk to Children About Coronavirus? Stay Honest and Simple to Avoid Anxiety.  
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2020/02/28/talking-children-coronaviruskeepsimple-avoid-stress/4906147002/>

How to Talk to Your Kids About the Coronavirus (and Ease Their Fears)  
<https://www.nbcnews.com/better/lifestyle/how-talk-your-kids-about-coronavirus-easetheirfears-ncna1129851>

### **Academic Support Material**

- In PreK-Grade 6, curriculum packets have been created to target ELA and Math and will be mailed home this week to all students. These materials can also be found on the homepage of the District website under the title, “Academic Support Material”.
- Additional online resources, by grade, can also be found on the District website through this link.

### **Educational Impact**

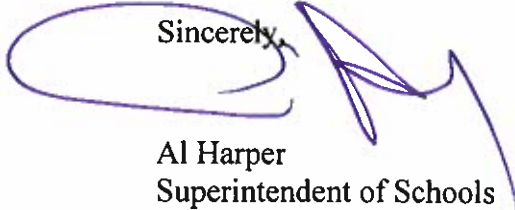
- For those with questions regarding the impact of any potential disruption of the educational process on student grades, our teachers and administrators are well aware of this concern. They will take into account any disruption to the educational routine, whether missed instruction or the need for additional time to complete assignments. Our main concern is the safety and health of our students and staff.

### **Meal Distribution**

- The District is working on a plan for food distribution. More information will follow.

We will continue to share information as it becomes available on our school District website.

Sincerely,



Al Harper  
Superintendent of Schools

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