



Remsenburg - Speonk U.F.S.D.

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DLS:357

March 20, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I hope this letter finds you well and healthy as we work through these very challenging times. I have been hearing from some parents that there is some confusion in our community regarding a few areas. My intention to answer whatever questions I have answers to right now, as guidance comes in daily and it seems for every answer there are three more questions. These are very trying times.

As indicated in my last outreach to our community, our students have been on Spring Break and we are using our snow days until Wednesday, March 25th. Google Classrooms will go live on Thursday, March 26th. A revised calendar is attached and is subject to change. The State Education Department has yet to release guidance on whether or not virtual learning will constitute a school day. Until that happens, we are making decisions as best we can, with what we know, and it seems that the rules are changing each day, moment by moment. The attached revised calendar is contingent on the Board of Education approval on March 30th and is subject to change as this situation evolves.

Please keep yourself informed. The Governor was on News 12 today and was basically making a plea for people to avoid contact with one another unless necessary, particularly our elderly population. He went as far as saying that we should be keeping our kids away from vulnerable populations, such as their grandparents. He outlined provisions for the vulnerable and non-vulnerable (our children) populations as follows:



STRICTEST RULES FOR MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS:
seniors over 70, immune-compromised people, and those with underlying illnesses

- Remain indoors
- Can go outside for solitary exercise
- Pre-screen all visitors and aides by taking their temperature
- Do not visit households with multiple people
- All vulnerable persons should wear a mask when in the company of others
- To the greatest extent possible, everyone in the presence of vulnerable people should wear a mask
- Always stay at least six feet away from individuals
- Do not take public transportation unless urgent and absolutely necessary

Governor
Andrew M. Cuomo

PAUSE Provisions for Non-Vulnerable Populations

1. Non-essential gatherings of individuals of any size for any reason (e.g. parties, celebrations, or other social events) are cancelled or postponed at this time.
2. Any concentration of individuals outside their home must be limited to workers providing essential services and social distancing should be practiced.
3. When in public individuals must practice social distancing of at least six feet from others.
4. Businesses and entities that provide essential services must implement rules that help facilitate social distancing of at least 6 feet.
5. Individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to non-contact and avoid activities where you come in close contact with people.
6. Individuals should limit use of public transportation to when absolutely necessary, and should limit potential exposure by spacing out at least 6 feet from other riders.
7. Sick individuals should not leave their home unless to receive medical care, and only after a telehealth visit to determine if leaving the home is in the best interest of their health.
8. Young people should also practice social distancing and avoid contact with vulnerable populations.
9. Precaution: Isopropyl alcohol wipes

Due to these guidelines, the local towns have shut down all public playgrounds and parks. ***I am sorry to say that at this point our RSE playground will also be closed to the public.*** Unfortunately, if we are ever going to escape this virus, we will need to take the precautions we are being told to take.

Please continue taking the prescribed measures and making sure that your children do as well.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Remind children that they need to wash thoroughly. If they sing the “Happy Birthday” song twice, they will have done so. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Heavily soiled hands should be washed.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Teach your child not to cough or sneeze into their hands. Coughing into your sleeve allows droplets to be caught instead of spreading them.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

I thank you for your patience and trust as we navigate these difficult waters and I wish you and families good health.

Sincerely,



Denise Lindsay Sullivan
Superintendent of Schools