

EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Kimberley Chiodi, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

March 6, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Today the New Jersey Department of Education published new guidance for a public health-related school closure. The purpose of a school closure would be to limit the transmission of COVID-19 within a community. Please be assured that no cases of COVID-19 have been reported in our community at this time.

A school closure decision would be made in collaboration with a directive from the New Jersey Department of Health. In the event of this type of closure, districts would have the option to utilize home instruction as an alternative to school-based instruction. Should the district choose to utilize home instruction during the school closure, and the home instruction plan meet the state's new requirements, the day(s) will count towards students' required 180 days of instruction. We are currently working to revise our plan to reflect this new and emerging guidance.

We anticipate we will continue to receive NJDOE updates on this unique situation. More information will be coming when it is made available to us.

In the meantime, we ask for your assistance with recommended ways to stop the spread of the flu and other viruses:

-Avoid contact with sick people.

-Stay home when you are sick. Students may not return to school until they are fever-free, without medication to reduce fever, for 24 hours.

-Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

-Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue, and then throw the tissue in the trash.

-Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the bathroom, after sneezing/coughing and before eating.

-Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as countertops and door handles. Here at school, we will continue our daily sanitizing routines to prevent the spread of communicable viruses.

The New Jersey State Department of Health has also activated a free, 24 hour health line where trained healthcare professionals are ready to answer questions about COVID-19: **1-800-222-1222**.

We will continue to be vigilant by monitoring student attendance and communicating with the NJ Department of Health and Gloucester County Department of Health. We will respond to emerging guidance regarding preventative measures, and we will keep you informed as new information becomes available.

Sincerely,

Andrea Evans

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