



## Margate City Board of Education

8103 WINCHESTER AVENUE  
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March 10, 2020

Dear Margate Families:

As we continue to navigate through the complex challenges of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), I would like to share our current plans regarding individual illnesses and possible school closings.

Anyone whose symptoms would fall under the umbrella of a "high index of suspicion" should seek to be screened for COVID-19. If anyone in your household is confirmed to carry the COVID-19 virus, we should be notified immediately.

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) identifies school closure as a potential strategy to limit transmission within a community. As a result, the New Jersey Department of Education has directed school districts across the state to plan and prepare for the possibility of closing due to the continued spread of COVID-19.

If schools are ordered to be closed by the NJDOH, the Department of Education may waive the 180 school-day requirement provided our District submits a plan for "home instruction" that would occur during the closure.

At this time, unless there is an outbreak of the virus tied directly to our school community, we will follow the direction of the NJDOH regarding a decision to close our schools for an extended period of time. In the meantime, we are preparing for the possibility of closing by creating a platform for the delivery of home instruction.

Your cooperation and support is greatly appreciated. Decisions regarding the impact on future programs such as assemblies and activities that involve large gatherings will be shared as we get closer to those dates. Currently all extra-curricular activities will remain as scheduled. However, as of today, there will be no **weekend** activities after Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> to allow us to extend the cleaning and disinfecting services of our custodial staff during the week, which have been heightened to address all areas of need.

The health and safety of our students and staff will remain our top priority. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Baruffi".

Thomas A. Baruffi, Ed. D.  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

TB/to