



Margate City Board of Education

8103 WINCHESTER AVENUE
MARGATE CITY, NEW JERSEY 08402
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March 15, 2020

Dear Margate Families:

Over the past couple of weeks we have sent you letters to keep you apprised of our district's responses to the COVID-19 outbreak. As we continue to meet this challenge, I am providing the following update:

School Closure Effective Tuesday, March 17th

- Over the weekend, several districts in Atlantic County and entire counties throughout the State have made the decision to close schools. The Governor has indicated that closing schools statewide is imminent.
- On Saturday, March 14th, Atlantic County Superintendents, along with the director of the Atlantic County Department of Health and the Atlantic County Executive Superintendent, participated in a conference call. We discussed the pros and cons of closure and also reviewed information provided by the Center for Disease Control and Department of Health.
- In an effort to join together to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, **we have made the decision to close schools effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020**. The closure will last until Thursday, April 9, 2020. As per our calendar, Spring Break is from April 10th through Friday, April 17th. At this point, students will return to school on Monday, April 20th. We will confirm this with you at that time or advise you that an extended closure is needed.
- This means that **school is open Monday, March 16, 2020** and we strongly encourage you to have your children attend. Our administrators, teachers, and support staff will be providing students with additional guidance and reassurance about the closure. We believe this will help the children with this unprecedented school closing.

Additional Information

- Any students who were absent or did not take home supplies on Friday will be able to do so Monday.
- As previously shared, lunch will be provided for those students who qualify for free or reduced meals. Lunch will be available for pick up at William H. Ross School from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Parents should call 609-703-4100 between 8:30-9:30 a.m. to order lunch. Arrangements for porch drop off will be available.
- Students who have medication at school that is needed at home should contact the school nurse or main office to make arrangements to have the medication sent home. 5
- Please refer to our district website for all the school closure information and each building website for information regarding educational activities.
- During the remote schooling sessions, teachers will be available through email for all questions and assistance with assignments. Ross teachers will also be available through Class DoJo.
- At this time the main offices in each building will be open to parents Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Time outside of those hours will be dedicated towards disinfecting and cleaning.
- For students who need to borrow a district Chromebook, parents should visit their respective school Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Please know that the decision to close was made with much deliberation and consultation. It is our hope that this additional day will help provide the time you need to make arrangements for your child's care during this closure. If you have any questions, please contact me at tbaruffi@margateschools.org or (609) 822-1447 ext. 366.

We will provide additional updates, as needed. Thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

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

Thomas A. Baruffi, Ed. D.
Interim Superintendent

TB/to