

Serving With Pride The Township of Manalapan and the Borough of Englishtown John J. Marciante, Jr., Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools

Peter M. Friedman Building 54 Main Street Englishtown, NJ 07726-1529 (732) 786-2500 (732) 786-2542 FAX

jmarciante@mersnj.us

March 12, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Manalapan-Englishtown Regional School District is continuing to consult with state and local officials from the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Department of Education regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) and its possible impact on student education. As I indicated in my initial communication with the community, I have directed Physical Plant to enhance cleaning, including daily cleaning of high frequency contact areas. We will also be addressing the high frequency contact areas in our buses on a daily basis.

The Commissioner of Education, with permission from Governor Murphy, announced that schools will be able to utilize remote learning ONLY in the event the Manalapan Health Department directs us to close due to a COVID-19 outbreak. Since receiving this guidance, district administration has been working diligently to create a plan that is compliant with these guidelines and ensures our students will still receive a quality education that meets the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. This option is only available when the decision to have a health related school closure is made by the Manalapan or State Department of Health. During this crisis I will be deferring to the Health Department on this matter. It is imperative that you make plans for child care in case there is a health related closure. That decision is outside of my authority and can happen at any time.

In the event of a health related closure, the first day will be used to ensure that everything needed is in place for virtual learning. All children should login to Classlink that day. Directions for logging on to Classlink will be provided. Instruction will begin the second day of the health related closure.

Please continue to follow the safe practices and prevention guidelines as outlined by <u>the New Jersey</u> <u>Department of Health</u> or <u>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u>.

- Do not send students to school if they are sick; those with a fever should remain at home until they are "fever free" for a minimum of 24 hours.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Keep your hands away from your mouth, eyes, nose, and face.
- Do not share food or drinks.
- Contact your healthcare provider immediately if you experience symptoms.

Thank you for your support during this difficult period. By working together I believe that we can ensure that everyone can remain safe and your children can have a positive learning experience.

Sincerely,

In Marciante J. Ph.D.

John J. Marciante, Jr., Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools