

## JOHNSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL 165 MAIN STREET NORTH CREEK, NY 12853

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March 14, 2020

Dear Johnsburg Community,

We continue to monitor all guidance from local, state and federal agencies. At this time, there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the Johnsburg Central School District. However, out of an abundance of caution, we are joining other area districts and closing school for students from March 16 through April 19, 2020.

Given that this is a rapidly evolving public health issue, we feel that this is the most proactive and prudent action available to us. It is our hope that this closure will provide time to prevent any potential community spread of illness.

During this time, students will not report to school. All 12-month employees will continue to work during the closure, barring any further direction from the Department of Health. 10-month employees will continue to work at home and at times in District.

We recognize that this is an inconvenience to our families, but our primary concern is mitigating the risk of possible community spread. The district has been and will remain in communication with local health department officials.

We realize that students may need to retrieve personal and academic items from school. Students/parents can come into the school for this purpose on Tuesday, March 17 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please come in by the main entrance, sign in and retrieve materials needed. If this time does not fit into your schedule, please contact us and we will make arrangements for another time.

## **Instructional Online Resources**

Due to the concerted effort of our faculty and staff, we are able to provide educational opportunities during this period of time.

We are committed to providing educational resources for our students, but it is important to acknowledge that there are practical limits to instructional program continuity. Instead, our commitment will be to share a variety of resources for teacher-guided, parent-guided and self-guided learning for students. Accordingly, our teachers have created online age-appropriate

resources that you may use with your child. It includes links and resources that will give students the opportunity to practice skills, review content and explore topics at home. If your household does not have internet capability, or you would rather have hard copies (if available), the district will make sure they are made available to you when requested. Administration will also be available by email or phone to answer any questions. We encourage you to look at the online resources that have been created by our teachers with the learning needs of all children in mind.

## **Food Services**

Beginning Tuesday, March 17, we will be providing food services to any student in the Johnsburg Central School District. On Tuesday, breakfast and lunch will be available from 10a.m.-12 p.m. Parents/Guardians will be able to pick up at the school in the south parking lot. If pickup is not an option for your family, please contact us and we will make arrangements to have it delivered. Starting on Monday, March 16, Karen Moore will be available at (518) 251-2921 extension 3132. She will create a list of families requesting to participate in this program, and how they need their meals provided. If your children plan on participating and they have dietary restrictions, please make sure Karen is aware.

As Gov. Andrew Cuomo stated during his press conference yesterday, school superintendents have the ability to decide to close their school districts, and the superintendents of our region have made that determination.

The New York State Education Department continues to work with the governor's office, the New York State Department of Health and the U.S. Department of Education to provide guidance to our schools around issues such as instructional time and test scheduling.

This situation is very fluid and could change as we continue to work with our local departments of health and New York State Department of Health.

The most current and accurate information about the coronavirus can be found at <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus">www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus</a>.

Thank you for your continued patience and partnership, and we will provide you with more information as soon as we can. Please keep checking your email and the district website for the most accurate and updated information. We appreciate your support, cooperation and understanding.

Thank you.

Michael J. Markwica

Superintendent of Schools