



# HARPURSVILLE

CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Dear Harpurville Families:

Here we are again, another week down the road in dealing with this pandemic. While we have to continue to work in this remote way for now, I truly look forward to providing you with some weekly updates and information. My wish for you and your family, of course, remains that you are all continuing to be well and are finding productive ways to keep busy. With each passing week, the need and desire to get back together in our schools seems to increase. Hopefully, it will happen soon, as long as we can all safely make that transition back. In the meantime, we will continue to do our very best to make sure our students are learning and have access to our grab-and-go meals.

### ***Grab-and-go meals continue this week...***

Our meal distribution plan in the district will be the same for this week that it was for last week. In addition to the Broome County meal pick-up locations, I've posted a note on the website regarding the meal distribution for this week for our district. It can be found in the "letters and special notifications" section on the webpage dedicated to coronavirus information or at this link: <https://www.hcs.stier.org/Downloads/HCS%20Food%20Pick-up%20Procedures%20for%20April%206-10.pdf>. Again, you will notice that we are serving meals on Monday and Thursday only for this week. Rest assured that all children will still be able to receive 5 meals each week. On Monday, each child will receive 3 breakfast meals and 3 lunch meals to cover Monday through Wednesday and then on Thursday, each child will receive 2 breakfast meals and 2 lunch meals to cover Thursday and Friday. Hopefully, this will help everyone so that you only have to come to get meals a couple of times during the week. It appeared to work really well last week. We are also continuing with our off-site locations for meal pick-up. The locations and times are listed in the link above. We hope to see you!

### ***April 15<sup>th</sup> remains our "closed until" date...***

I know that everyone is wondering when we might return to school and we each have our own ideas about if/when that will happen. Certainly the national and local news doesn't seem to suggest it will be anytime soon. However, as of today, I can only tell you that we are still closed until April 15<sup>th</sup>. I expect that we will likely hear news from our state or local government officials regarding school closures by the middle of this week, but I can't really be sure. I will communicate any news that I hear to everyone so that you are well-informed and can be prepared.

### ***The school work being provided to students really does matter...***

I'm guessing that the four school-aged children living in my house and peppering my wife and I with questions about the significance of the school work they are being provided with every day isn't unique to our home! These days of working from home are, in fact, counting as school days for our school year. Just as students would be expected to be in school and working, they are expected to be at home and working. The work being provided to the students really does matter. This is especially true given the length of time that we've been out of school and the length of time that we might remain out of school. Not only is it important for our students to continue learning during this period of time, but on a practical level, we have to ensure that we are accommodating for the unknown. Here's the bottom line: not knowing when this will end, at some point we are going to have to make decisions about grade-level promotion, pass/fail for classes, credits earned, etc. A student best positions himself/herself with these items and upon a return to "normal" school when he/she is doing all of the academic things being asked. In short, students should be and must be engaging with the work and their teachers. On a similar note, information about the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period and how we plan to progress through the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period will be provided soon.

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***Expanded internet at the school...***

Just a reminder that the network extenders installed at the school remain available for your use. The two HCS mini-vans that are out in the parking lot near the bus garage actually have the wireless access points (WAPs) right in them! Each WAP can handle about 30 devices at once. This will allow anyone with one of our district-issued devices to come down to the school and access the school's internet. All you need to do is pull in the parking lot near one of the vans and the device should automatically connect. This can be really helpful for students who need to upload work that they may have completed off-line or they may want to spend a little time interacting with classmates or content. Feel free to use this opportunity as much as you need to!

***The district website continues to be the best resource for accurate information...***

In closing, please continue to check the website for updates and information related to our school closure as a result of the coronavirus. Our webpage dedicated to this information is located at: <https://www.hcs.stier.org/coronavirusinformation.aspx>. I expect that information will continue to emerge in the coming days and weeks as we continue to address this issue. As such, I will provide important updates, as necessary, by direct emails and through posts on our website. Please be sure to contact your child's teachers, counselor, principal, other administrator, or me if we can be of any assistance. We are here to help!

Best wishes for your well-being and safety!

Yours in education,



Mr. Michael J. Rullo  
Superintendent of Schools