



HARPURSVILLE

CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Dear Harpurville Families:

The sun and warmth of the last couple of days has certainly been a welcome change and has probably provided us with a little bit of the kind of lift that we really needed to start the month of May. This is especially true given the school-related news of the last couple of days. Thus, writing to you this week brings many new emotions for me and I'm sure that it is the same for you. Lucky for us, we still have a tremendous school community which brings us together and allows us to stay connected. With that in mind, I'm pleased to provide some important information and updates for this week.

Let's celebrate teacher appreciation week...

This week, the week of May 4-8, marks National Teacher Appreciation Week! One of the many silver linings of our remote learning experience has been our renewed appreciation and understanding for the tireless work of those that teach our children. This year, maybe more than ever, there is so much to honor and celebrate! I would like to thank ALL of the teachers, support staff members, and parents that have collectively worked to make sure that our students are learning and are well taken care of. Please take some time to reach out to those "teachers" that have had a positive impact on our students. Our Harpurville PTSA has an amazing plan in place to celebrate our educators. Be sure to check out the PTSA's plan! You may also want to visit the National Education Association website (<http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html>) for some great ideas and downloadable certificates that you can send to that special educator. Let's have a fantastic teacher appreciation week and on behalf of myself and the Board of Education, ***THANK YOU***, to everyone that has a hand in the education of our children!

Grab-and-go meals continue this week with one additional meal served for the weekend...

Our meal distribution plan in the district will be the same for this week as it has been for the past several weeks. This includes the locations and times that we've been at the different drop-off sites within the district too. Furthermore, the Broome County meal pick-up locations are posted on the website and 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/Broome%20County%20Meal%20Sites%205-4%20to%205-8%20FINAL.pdf>. Consistent with past couple of weeks, you will notice that we are serving meals on Monday and Thursday of this week and each person will receive 3 breakfast and 3 lunch meals to cover each of the respective days (Monday-Wednesday and then Thursday-Saturday). It is highly likely that this will continue to be the pattern in the weeks to come.

Our “closed until” date is now through the end of the 2019-2020 school year...

As you know from my phone call and email on Friday, the Governor has now closed schools through the end of the school year. We knew that he was making an announcement about schools on Friday and although many of us expected this news, actually hearing it was a real punch in the gut. The finality of the decision for this year, and all of its implications, had a sting to it. Rationally, however, I know that this is the best decision for the health and safety of everyone in our community and obviously there is nothing more important than that. Let’s all stay committed to doing our part so that we can reconnect during the summer or the fall!

The Class of 2020 is at the forefront of everyone’s thoughts...

One of the most significant impacts of this unprecedented school closure is the impact on our graduating class of seniors and the sacrifice that they are having to make. There are many end-of-year activities that are a rich part of our school’s tradition that they are not able to experience. I know I am not alone in saying that my heart breaks for them and their parents/families. To the Class of 2020, please know that we love you and our entire community loves you. This is not the way we wanted the last part of the senior year to be for you and I wish that it wasn’t like this – no one does. If there was a way to change things, we most certainly would. We are working hard to figure out what the future can bring to celebrate our Class of 2020 and their graduation from HCS. I want to thank the JSHS staff members, Mrs. Conrow, and our PTSA that have extended so much time, resource, and kindness to celebrate our seniors. As I suggested the other day, if you have the opportunity to reach out to one of our seniors just to let them know that you are thinking about them and to wish them well, please do it. There are great things ahead for the Harpursville Central Schools and the Class of 2020! I just know it! Let’s go Hornets!

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 will continue to 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
