



May 31, 2020

Dear Harpurville Families:

I can't believe this is the last message in the month of May! Time is flying by and in just a couple of weeks, the 2019-2020 school year will be over. Wow. We have quite a bit to do and think about between now and then. With that in mind, I offer some important updates and information:

Grab-and-go meals will continue ...

We love seeing so many residents stop down to the school to pick up some food during our food service times. We are back to our Monday and Thursday schedule for serving meals this week. **Meals will be served on Monday and Thursday of this upcoming week from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.** to cover each of the days during that time period. We'll also be at the same off-campus locations and at the same times that we've been out in the district on both days. 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%206-1%20to%206-5%20FINAL.pdf>.

The last day of instruction for students is...

I know that many people are wondering when the last day of the school year is for students. Unless I get surprised with new information from the governor or another authority, the last day of instruction for students during the 2019-2020 school year is . . . (drum roll) . . . **Friday, June 12th**! After that day, students can shut off their computers, Chromebooks, and iPads! I know all of the parents, family, and friends that have been helping out and supporting students with the remote learning are probably just as excited about this end date as the students are!

If you're wondering about what to do with a device that has been borrowed from the school, textbooks, library books, or some other school issued item once the school year is over, information will be provided at a later date for the collection of these things. Stay tuned...

2020-2021 Budget and Board of Education Information...

The budget newsletter and all of the other required budget information should have arrived to your households by now. Please be reminded that the vote date is Tuesday, June 9, 2020 and all of the absentee ballots must be received by 5:00 p.m. in order to be counted for the vote. There is also a mailbox outside of the district office for drop-off of your ballot, if needed. Any eligible voter that did not receive an absentee ballot can request one by contacting the district clerk. Please don't hesitate to contact the district clerk, Tabatha Rhodes, at tabbyr@hcs.stier.org, our school business administrator, Joe McLaughlin, at jjmclaughin@hcs.stier.org, or me with any questions.

Graduation for the class of 2020 is on our minds every day...

At the forefront of our minds is the manner in which we will be allowed to celebrate the graduation of our HCS Class of 2020. This has been extremely challenging as we have been waiting, and waiting, for information from local and state officials as to what might be allowed. That's left us to anticipate several different situations and we have about three different plans that we know we could successfully implement. First, **as of this moment, graduation will still be held on Saturday, June 27th at 10:00 a.m.** Our plan A is to have an in-person graduation at the school where our Class of 2020 can be together for one last time and their guests can see them graduate. The Harpursville CSD proposed plan was sent to the governor's office just over a week ago for (hopeful) approval and it would allow our district to have a graduation ceremony in-person, on our campus. It would limit the number of people on campus, ensure appropriate distancing, implement the appropriate use of masks, but at least our students could be celebrated in the manner that they deserve. I will let everyone know what we hear about the approval of our plan just as soon as possible. Continue to keep your fingers crossed and send some positive thoughts for approval to whoever and whatever will help to get our plan approved.

What's happening for the summer...?

This topic will continue to emerge and develop in the coming weeks and more specific information will be provided. However, this week, the governor announced that on-campus, in-person summer school will NOT be permitted. Thus, districts are left to implement remote summer school plans. We are putting plans in place to create some opportunities to support our students throughout the summer. More to come in the near future on this topic.

We are also developing a plan to make sure that meals are provided throughout the summer too. I had some conversation with our BOCES food services director this past week and we will be ready to make sure that meals are available all summer for our children. The schedule is in the works and will be made readily available when the time comes.

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

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
