



MONMOUTH BEACH SCHOOL

7 Hastings Place, Monmouth Beach, NJ 07750-1199 • Phone (732) 222-6139 • Fax (732) 222-2395

Michael Ettore, Superintendent
Joshua DeSantis, Assistant Principal
Peter E. Genovese III, Business Administrator

www.mbschool.org

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Dear MBS Families,

Greetings to everyone in our school community! Let me start by expressing my sincere hope that you and your family are all doing well. There is no doubt that the Covid-19 crisis facing our town, state and country is stressful and frightening on many levels. However, I also believe that people and communities such as Monmouth Beach shine bright when faced with adversity. Based on the feedback I have received from parents, teachers and community members so far, I am convinced that everyone is working hard to help our students continue with their education and stay connected with our school.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we conclude our first week of remote learning. I am extremely proud of our teachers and students as they have worked together to meet and even exceed my expectations in the early phase of this endeavor. Because we are currently in an unprecedented time, the practice of remote learning was implemented in response to the need to close schools in an emergency situation. Our teachers are currently using a variety of resources to maintain skills taught in class and they will continue to move through the curriculum remotely and find ways to make adjustments along the way to help their students progress as much as possible.

I realize that there are many questions and concerns out there at this time and even though I do not have all of the answers at this moment, I felt it was important to give you this update. Perhaps the biggest question is simply how long will school stay closed? As you probably know, Governor Murphy directed all schools to be closed as of March 18 and remain closed for at least two weeks. As a result, the earliest date for schools to reopen would be Wednesday, April 1. However, it is quite possible that our closure will be extended beyond that date. It is my understanding that schools will not be allowed to reopen until the Health Officials and Governor Murphy have lifted the current directive to remain closed. By the time I send out my next update to all families in the coming days, we may have more direction from Trenton on the length of our closure.

With regard to other important events and activities such as spring sports and class trips, the Board of Education and I have decided to place everything on hold until we return to school. As long as school reopens at some point during the spring, every effort will be made to honor all of our activities and special events, including the trips to Camp Bernie and Boston.

Despite all of the challenges and limitations that have been rapidly placed in our lives, I urge everyone to focus on the importance of family, health and safety. I have no doubt that we will make it through this difficult time and we will return with a renewed sense of community. For now, please take care of yourselves and your family.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Ettore

Principal/Superintendent