

March 26, 2020

## PT Planned Instruction and Revised School Calendar

Dear PT Families,

I hope that this email finds you well. I am ever mindful of the upheaval that the COVID-19 pandemic is causing in the lives of our children, our PT family, and families around the world. In the midst of this turmoil, I have been uplifted by the resiliency of our families and by the willingness of our community to reach out to support one another in this time of crisis. I am reaching out today to provide more information regarding our Continuity of Education Plan and its impact on our school calendar.

While we recognize that there is no better form of instruction than the instruction that occurs in our classrooms, we fully understand the necessity of the Governor's act to close and then extend the closure of our schools. During the initial closure and under the guidance of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the District provided enrichment and informal learning experiences for your child via e-mail communications from your child's teacher. We hope that you found those resources helpful and continue to encourage your child to use them.

### Remote Planned Instruction

With the very likely possibility of an extended closure, we will transition from informal learning experiences to formal planned learning on April 13, 2020. Given our commitment to providing high quality, thoughtful, and relevant educational experiences for our students, our teachers have been working diligently to transition the delivery of our existing robust curriculum to an on-line platform that is accessible to all students. We chose the labor-intensive work of retooling our existing curriculum for on-line delivery over a canned on-line program to ensure a learning experience most similar to the learning that occurs daily in our classrooms. Knowing that this crisis will end, the use of our existing programs and curriculum will allow for a seamless return to the classroom. **Next week, your child's teachers will be sending you detailed information regarding your child's learning plan including assignments, resources, learning platforms, teacher office hours, and other important information.**

### School Calendar

In an effort to avoid further disruption to the lives of our families, we made every effort to minimize changes to our existing school calendar. **On Monday, March 30, 2020, our Board of School Directors will vote to approve a Revised Calendar that maintains our current Spring Break, extends the school year by one day to June 5, 2020, meets current PDE requirements for days and hours of instruction, and maintains our current Commencement date of June 5, 2020.** More details to follow pending Board approval.

## **State-Mandated Testing**

As previously announced, PDE has waived all mandated state testing – including PSSA, PASA, and Keystone Exams. This was a welcome announcement as we can now use the previously scheduled testing days for instruction.

## **Thank You**

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement as we work to provide high quality learning opportunities under the most challenging of situations. Your efforts to help mitigate the spread of this vary contagious virus and to protect the health of our community are greatly appreciated. We look forward to the time when we can return to normal and be together again.

Respectfully,

Jeannine L. French, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools