



# ATLANTIC CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Barry Caldwell, Superintendent

March 13, 2020

Dear Atlantic City Public School District Community

As you know, the situation with the coronavirus has been changing rapidly and I wanted to communicate an update to you on what I know so far.

### **Field Trips**

Schools in Atlantic City have been notified to suspend all field trips for March. While this is disappointing for the students involved, we understand this recommendation to be in everyone's best interest. Therefore, at this time, NO field trips will take place until further notice. Taking this action will not only protect our students, but also the community at large. By reducing the number of large groups meeting up with other large groups, we reduce the risk of this virus spreading from community to community.

### **Groups of 250 or More**

Governor Murphy asked that groups of 250 or more not gather in one location. Therefore, we will be postponing those events/activities that have this many people at them.

### **Health Related Closure Preparedness Plan**

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) directed all Districts to develop a preparedness plan to provide equitable access to instruction for all students in the event the District needs to close for a health-related issue. If the District has a health related closure preparedness plan and makes every effort to meet the educational needs of all children, via home instruction, those days will count towards the 180-day requirement. "Home Instruction" can include but is not limited to remote, online, asynchronous, digitally, pen and paper instruction, project-based assignments and assessment packets. The Atlantic City Public School District's plan has been submitted to the DOE.

Our staff will continue to prepare up to 30 days of work for our students. This work will be given to all students on Tuesday, March 17. Should the District close, flexible learning opportunities will be available for all students. Teachers will have prepared lessons that are accessible via technology as well as through traditional paper materials sent home from the school. Language rich lessons for Early Childhood students will be developmentally appropriate and limit the screen time for our young children. Equitable access to materials and resources will be provided to all students and instruction will be differentiated in order to meet the needs of all our students including:

- ESL/ELL
- Special education/504
- At-Risk
- On Grade Level

Students will be able to submit assignments for grading either through an online platform like Google; as well as, in-person upon returning to school.

### **Communication During Closing**

Should the District close, all communication will come from my office. Information will also be available as follows:

- [Atlantic City Public School District Website](#)
- [Atlantic City Public Schools Facebook](#)
- [District Twitter Accounts](#)
- Teachers: all staff will have access to their email during regularly scheduled school hours
- ACPS automated communication / messages via email, text and/or phone

### **Food Service in the Event of a Closure**

In the event of a closure, there will be ten locations available for a “bagged” breakfast and lunch for pick-up by those students who receive free and reduced lunch. Times and locations are listed below:

- Breakfast / Lunch (one pick up for both breakfast & lunch)
  - 8:00AM to 11:00 AM

Chelsea Heights School  
4101 Filbert Avenue

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex  
1700 Marmora Avenue

Pennsylvania Avenue School  
201 Pennsylvania Avenue

New York Avenue School  
411 No. New York Avenue

Richmond Avenue School  
4115 Ventnor Avenue

Sovereign Avenue School  
111 No. Sovereign Avenue

Texas Avenue School  
2523 Arctic Avenue

Brighton Avenue School  
30 Brighton Avenue

Uptown School Complex  
323 Madison Avenue

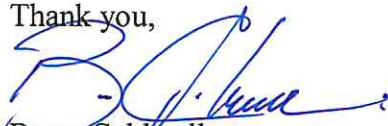
Venice Park School  
1601 N. Penrose Avenue

Although, there is NO current date or plan to close schools, I would highly encourage all parents to begin to plan in the event of a school closure for up to two (2) weeks (or longer). Unfortunately, if this were to occur, it is likely that it will happen with less than a 24-hour notice.

In closing, please know that we are continuing our enhanced cleaning protocols and ask that you assist us by reinforcing that students wash their hands often and thoroughly, encouraging them to cover their coughs/sneezes and, if a student is symptomatic, they should stay home.

We will keep you informed as we continue to receive updates from the Department of Health and the Department of Education.

Thank you,



Barry Caldwell  
Superintendent of Schools