



**Asbury Park Board of Education**

910 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712  
(732) 776-2606 Ext. 2423

**Sancha K. Gray, Superintendent**

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**Dr. Kristie M. Howard**  
Director of Student Services

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Assistant Business Administrator

**Deborah A. Sylvia**  
Director of School Counseling Services

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the Asbury Park School District continues to monitor developments related to the Coronavirus, health-related closure preparedness and their potential impact on our district, please know that I have been engaging in ongoing meetings with members of my Executive Committee to develop the district's appropriate course of action. District buildings will be continuing their three-step cleaning and disinfecting process, which includes regular and frequent cleaning of surfaces frequently touched, such as doorknobs and handrails. In addition, based on information we have received from federal and state health officials, it is imperative that we remain diligent to ensure existing preventative measures are followed.

To that end, we will continue to stress the importance of basic hygiene, such as frequent hand-washing with soap and water, encouraging staff and students who have traveled abroad and present respiratory symptoms to self-quarantine until symptoms dissipate, and of course, we will keep requiring all to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. Additionally, many of our common areas are equipped with hand-sanitizer devices for those who cannot immediately access soap and water while our custodian team will continue deep cleaning and disinfecting all buildings.

Lastly, the district will use its scheduled staff professional development day on March 11, 2020 to engage in creating lessons in the event that we have to close for an extended period. Should a closure be necessary, we are prepared to provide our students with access to grab-and-go" bagged lunches at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School since for many we are their primary source of nutrition. As always, please visit our website and social media pages for real-time updates.

The New Jersey Department of Health also recommends the following:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your sleeve, not your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Wash hands often for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is 60% (or more) alcohol-based if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home if you are sick, especially with a fever.
- Avoid people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.

As always, please call my office with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Sancha K. Gray  
Superintendent of Schools

**BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE**