March 11, 2020

Dear Hastings Families,

Information is being provided regularly to public school districts by the New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to limit our large group gatherings by canceling all field trips, overnight trips, and large group assemblies or gatherings such as plays or performances for the months of March and April. In addition, we are also temporarily discontinuing the use of the school buildings by outside groups including Saturday and Sunday effective Friday, March 13, 2020. As we receive updates from the NYSDoH, CDC, and the New York State Education Department, we may need to revise these cancellations and temporary suspensions.

This is not meant to alarm you or suggest that we have a student or staff member who has tested positive for the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). As of today, we do not have any information from the NYSDoH of a positive test in our school community. Social distancing minimizes the possibility of student and staff exposure and containment. Reducing large gatherings in our buildings also allows our facilities team to dedicate their efforts to maintaining the cleaning protocols outlined by the NYSDoH.

Below is a list of school-based cancellations

Hillside Elementary School

Special Events

- Dan Gutman Presentation
- The New Kid SEL Assembly
- Grade 3 Blini Breakfast
- Grade 2 David Coffin Assembly
- Senior Sewing
Field Trips
- Grade 4 Orchestra to NY Philharmonic
- Grade 1 Trip to Hudson River Museum
- Grade 2 Trip to Teatown Lake Reservation

Farragut Middle School

Special Events
- FMS Science Fair
- Grade 5 Musical Production
- PTSA Family Meeting
- SEPTA Family Meeting
- A Visit from Mr. Richard Blanco, Poet
- A Visit from Ms. Betty Knoop, Holocaust Survivor
- Modified Spring Sports Assembly (March 23rd)

Field Trips
- Service Club Visits to Cornell Academy, Lenoir Preserve, and Andrus-on-Hudson
- Eighth Grade Trip to *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Fifth Grade Trip to Liberty Science Center

Hastings High School

Special Events
- WestMUNC Model UN Conference
- HHS Scholarship Fair
- High School Musical
- Community Quiz Bowl
- Grade 9 Peer Leadership Retreat
- National Honor Society Induction (postponed)

Field Trips
- Worldstrides Music Adjudication Festival (Washington DC)
- 11th-grade Tenement Museum Trip
- Academic Challenge Competitions
- Senior Trip to Chelsea Piers
- Criminal Justice Trip to Westchester Courthouse
- HASP Broadway Theater Trip
These programs will continue to operate as an extension of the school day

**Afterschool Care**
ASPIRE
ADD Water & Stir
Hastings Kids Club Reading Partners
Hastings Recreation After School Program
Project Inclusion

**School-Based Clubs**
8th Grade End of Year Celebration Planning Club
Hastings AMP
The Be Yourself Club
Homework Help Hillside

**The Usage of the School Buildings by the Community Groups listed below Will Be Temporarily Discontinued Until Further Notice**

**Special Events-Outside Organizations**
Harlem Rockets
PTSA Book Fair

**Outside Organizations**
American Patriots Basketball
AYSO (Rivertowns United)---*(outside use of fields is permitted)*
Girls Scouts
Boy Scouts
Girls on The Run *(outside use of fields is permitted)*
Hastings Little League
Hastings Over 35 League
Hastings Rec Basketball
LWB Skyscrapers Basketball
River Arts Music Lessons
St. Matt's CYO Basketball

Mayor Niki Armacost and I communicate regularly. Letters from the District are shared with Mayor Armacost and listed on her page, which can be found at hastingsgov.org. Changes are happening fairly regularly and we will do our best to provide you with the most up-to-date and accurate information available to us from our reliable sources.
As a reminder, we are preparing a uniform set of procedures for what will be added to Google Classroom in the event that we have a prolonged closure.

Thank you for your patience, calm and understanding.

Warm regards,

Valerie Henning-Piedmonte