

**WALLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
*"There is Power in Pride"*  
[www.wboe.org](http://www.wboe.org)

**Mr. James J. Albro**  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
[albro@wboe.org](mailto:albro@wboe.org)

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL**  
**32 Pine Street**  
**Wallington, NJ 07057**

March 13, 2020

Dear Wallington Public Schools Community:

County Executive James Tedesco has ordered the closing of all county public schools beginning Monday, March 16 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Bergen County. This is obviously a major decision, and we know the inconvenience it will bring. Please know that we have been preparing for this possibility and are continually modifying plans to continue educating our students.

At this time, we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 "coronavirus" connected to our school community. Please understand that the situation is changing rapidly, and that we are gathering information, making informed decisions, and implementing actions as quickly as possible.

**Schools will be closed as of March 16th.** It is the expectation that the closure will be for two weeks (until March 30th). However, given the current circumstances I believe this could change. If there is any change I will notify all stakeholders as soon as I have the complete information.

I cannot underscore the importance of our students' participation in virtual instruction. We are making many efforts to create assignments that will engage students and keep them on track as much as possible while using a number of virtual platforms. As this is so new to us all, we are bound to find issues in process and delivery; however, I am sure we will be able to work them all out through timely and thoughtful communication. Our virtual learning plan for students has been posted to our website for your reference, and will remain there throughout this closure.

As more information becomes available, I will share it with you. I urge you to keep checking your emails and our website for updates, and to avoid relying on unsubstantiated online "news" articles or social media sites like Facebook for information as they can be confusing, speculative, and often inaccurate.

**Throughout the closure:**

- Administrators, guidance counselors and staff members will be available by email and their google classroom platforms. I have listed some pertinent staff members' contact information previously, but you can also consult our district website: [www.wboe.org](http://www.wboe.org) as well.
- All co-curricular programs, including athletics and field trips, are canceled or postponed. We will evaluate plans when regular operations resume.
- The Board Office and Superintendent Office will be open for essential business on a half day schedule.
- Registration of new students for the 2020-2021 school year is suspended until regular operations resume.
- All before and after care programs are suspended until school is back in session. Any missed days that have already been paid for will be credited for future days or refunded if you wish.

I spoke with a number of parents at school dismissal and HS parent/teacher conferences on Thursday, and I know how much this kind of closure is going to inconvenience our families. Of course I am hopeful that this closure will do much to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff, and I appreciate your understanding and cooperation. I am confident that our parents, students, and staff will come together in this time to make the best out of a very difficult circumstance.

Sincerely,



Superintendent of Schools