Friday, March 13, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members:

As we continue to receive up to date information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) please know our district has already begun taking on proactive measures to address any forthcoming school related mandates administered from the State Education Department and/or our New York State Governor Cuomo.

I would kindly encourage you to access our district website regarding any information on the virus and/or school related procedures that may be forthcoming. We will post this information to the district website as soon as it becomes available to us.

Additional links, as well, will be provided on our district web page for you to access. Links from the State Education Department (SED), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the NYS Department Health are all excellent sites to find current, up to date information regarding the virus and proactive measures we can take to contain the virus.

As of now, we are eliminating any scheduled field trips for district students and staff up until after the April recess. At that time, we will re-evaluate our position based upon current information and direction given by the State Education Department and the Department of Health.

Please also know, OHM BOCES, and its component schools (Oriskany included) will remain open. There has been a press release from OHM BOCES addressing this. You may access this information on our school webpage.

There has been no current mandate or directive given for schools to close. We are not closing at this time. However, as you may be aware, information and updates on the virus are coming in, exponentially, on a daily basis.

Respectfully, please know that if we should we receive any new directives or guidelines from the state, we will act upon them and disseminate the information to you as soon as possible. I would encourage you to visit our district webpage periodically to look for the most current, up to date, information.

I understand this is a difficult time for all of us with much heightened alertness and many unknowns as we move forward in addressing the safety of our students, staff and community members.

I would respectfully encourage you to continue following the precautionary guidelines suggested by the state. These guidelines are listed on our district website and address such precautionary measures such as sanitation, hygiene, hand washing, limited contact with others, etc.

I appreciate your support, your understanding and your collaboration as we continue to prepare for the safety and education of our students.

Respectfully,
Timothy J. Gaffney
Superintendent of Schools