

## ATLANTIC CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent 1300 Atlantic Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08401

> Barry Caldwell Superintendent

March 15, 2020

Dear Atlantic City Public School Families:

Over the past couple of weeks, we have kept you apprised of our district's responses to the COVID-19 outbreak. As we continue to meet this challenge, I am providing the following update:

## School Closure Effective Tuesday, March 17th

- Over the weekend, several districts in Atlantic County and also entire counties throughout the State have made the decision to close schools. The Governor has indicated that closing schools statewide is imminent.
- On Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, Atlantic County Superintendents, along with the Director of the Atlantic County Department of Health and the Atlantic County Executive Superintendent, participated in a conference call. We discussed the pros and cons of closure and also reviewed information provided by the Center for Disease Control and Department of Health.
- In an effort to join together to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we have made the decision to close schools effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020. The closure will last until Thursday, April 9, 2020. As per our calendar, Spring Break is from April 9<sup>th</sup> through Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. At this point, students will return to school on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please note that this schedule is subject to change based on new information or direction from the government.
- Therefore, all schools are open Monday, March 16, 2020. Under these circumstances, it is a <u>MUST that students report to school</u> to receive their chromebooks and educational materials. Our administrators, teachers, and support staff will provide students with additional guidance and reassurance about the closure. We believe this will help our students with this unprecedented school closing.

## Additional information

• Breakfast and lunch will be provided **only for those students who qualify for free or reduced meals**. Breakfast and lunch will be provided in one package and available for pick up at all elementary schools from 8 am - 11 am (see the schedule of schools below). Please note that high school students will also pick-up at their neighborhood elementary schools.

- Students who have medication at school that is needed at home should contact the school nurse or main office to make arrangements for pick-up.
- Please refer to <u>www.acboe.org</u> for all the school closure Information and each building website for information regarding educational activities.
- During the remote schooling sessions, teachers will be available through email for all questions and assistance with assignments.
- All afterschool activities, games/sporting events, practices, and trips will be suspended until further notice.

Please know that the decision to close was made with much deliberation and consultation. We will provide additional updates, as needed. Thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

## **Food Service During the Closure**

The following ten locations will be available for a "bagged" breakfast and lunch 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

> Brighton Avenue School 30 Brighton Avenue

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

Uptown School Complex 323 Madison Avenue

Venice Park School 1601 N. Penrose Avenue

Sincerely,

Barry Caldwell