



Public Schools of Edison Township

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Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Daniel P. Michaud
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May 11, 2020

Dear School Community,

First, we want to wish all of our *first teachers (i.e., our moms)* a Happy Mother's Day. Nothing is as great as a mother's love for her child, and today we honor all of you who have taken on the never-ending challenges of motherhood. Thank you for all that you do!

As we rapidly approach the close of the school year, we hope you and your family are doing well and staying healthy. I know the social distancing sanctions ordered by our governor have at times been difficult for all of us, but they appear to be having their desired effect of flattening the curve of the spread of COVID-19 in our state. Please continue to remain vigilant to protect your family and our community.

On behalf of the Board of Education and our administrative team, we want to thank all our staff members for all their efforts during this difficult time in providing meaningful learning experiences for all our students in a remote learning environment. We continue to refine and adjust this process to best meet our students' needs. Nonetheless, we remain impressed with the acumen displayed by our staff as we transitioned to remote learning so quickly.

As you may be aware our Governor issued Executive Order #107 banning social gatherings, and the New Jersey State Department of Education sent a further clarifying memo on May 8, 2020, that bans any type of a graduation ceremony for our high school seniors. Consequently, we are left with no other options at this time except for a virtual graduation ceremony for our seniors. We are currently working with our administrative team to design a meaningful and appropriate celebration for our graduating seniors that will honor them and keep everyone safe. If at a later date, these sanctions are lifted, and we are permitted to gather in person, we will explore a second in-person ceremony option, possibly in the summer or later for those interested. We are committed to doing all we can for our seniors.

Governor Murphy also ordered that all schools remain on remote learning until the end of the school year. Parents and staff will receive correspondence from building principals on end of year closeout procedures. We are currently exploring our options for summer enrichment programs and extended school year services. Unless restrictions are lifted, our summer programs will be presented in a remote format as well.

Nothing Less Than Excellence

We continue to take guidance from our medical professionals and government officials regarding educational programming for our students and will plan accordingly. Please check our website regularly for updates. We are all in this together.

Be well, stay safe, and continue to Shine Bright Edison!

Sincerely,

Bernard F. Bragen, Jr.

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