

HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

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May 22, 2020

Dear Members of the Herricks School Community,

Today was a beautiful day for a parade, and there was a great turnout for the Center Street Elementary School car parade. Thank you to all that participated to show your support and Herricks spirit!

As you may have heard, Governor Cuomo announced yesterday that all summer school programs must be held remotely. While this is disappointing news, it is in the best interest of everyone's health and safety. All in-person Herricks programs for this summer will be cancelled. This includes the YMCA Summer Recreation Program. The YMCA staff will be in touch with anyone who has made a payment for the program, and they will provide a full refund. We are happy to offer several online programs this summer. Our remote learning summer programs include: High School Writing (grades 9-12), Middle School Writing (grades 6-8), Camp Invention STEM program (grades 3-6), and the Extended School Year (ESY) special education program. More information and registration details about these summer offerings will be sent to parents and posted on our District website.

We will soon be convening a District Reopening Task-Force to begin planning for the fall. The Task-Force will be gathering information and guidance from various sources, such as the CDC in order to discuss issues related to health and safety, food service, transportation, curriculum and instruction, and social-emotional learning. We will be planning for three possible contingencies: reopening, continued remote learning, and a hybrid model consisting of both. Governor Cuomo has indicated that the State Education Department (SED) will be providing guidance to school districts in June to assist with this planning process. The Governor has stated that his final decision regarding opening schools in the fall may not come until late into the summer, so we must prepare for all contingencies. We will be sending out a survey to teachers, parents, and students about remote learning. The feedback we receive will help inform us as we develop plans for the future.

I wish you all a happy and safe Memorial Day!

Regards,

Fino M. Celano, Ed. D. Superintendent of School