

Dr. Adele V. Pecora • Superintendent of Schools

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April 2, 2020

Dear Seaford Community,

The last few weeks have certainly been challenging. I understand the discomfort associated with extended school closures and assure you that administrators and teachers are working hard to create remote learning lessons that allow for continuous instruction. This is a time of adjustment for all of us as we venture into this new learning environment. Ultimately, we all want learning to continue for our students.

Governor Cuomo has issued several Executive Orders that school districts are required, by law, to follow. The most recent Order, which closes schools through April 14 (re-open April 15), directed "Districts must continue to provide remote instruction for students, meals for students, and child care for essential workers every weekday between April 1, 2020 and April 14, 2020, even if the district is scheduled to be on spring break during that time." Therefore, our continuity of learning plan will be on-going throughout this period. The SCOPE childcare service, as well as the distribution of breakfast and lunch meals, will continue through April 14.

As is our custom, the Seaford School District respects all religious holidays. With this in mind, if your child is unable to complete the daily assignments due to religious observance on April 9 and April 10, it is entirely understandable. We are sensitive to the needs that may exist in our community. Moreover, if students are faced with additional challenges over the next two weeks, kindly contact your teacher or principal.

It is highly unlikely that the Governor will allow the re-opening of school on April 15. As a result, we will adjust District plans when the next Governor's order is released.

An additional part of the continuity plan is the availability of Emergency Child Care for qualifying families. The Seaford School District will continue to offer the SCOPE childcare program at the Manor School. New York State sets the eligibility for this program. Details can be found on the SCOPE website: (https://www.scopeonline.us/scope-emergency-child-care/). The New York State Office of Children and Family Services is asking school districts to send the following survey about childcare needs to all families: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3HSNNYJ.

Strength and unity has arisen in the midst of adversity. I am proud of our faculty, staff, students and parents for working collaboratively to manage remote learning. Gratitude is extended to Seaford's talented and devoted teachers and administrators. They have been working tirelessly to provide meaningful learning experiences and social and emotional support. Thank you for your support and together we will get through this most challenging time. I wish you and your families well.

Yours in Seaford Pride,

Adele V. Pecora

Adele V. Pecora, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools