









April 17, 2020

CLOSURE EXTENSION INFORMATION FROM GOVERNOR MURPHY JOINT DISTRICT STATEMENT TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY COVID-19/ CORONAVIRUS

As you are aware because of the response to COVID-19, our school districts were awaiting further information and direction regarding the length of our school closures from our Governor. On Thursday, April 16, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy held a press conference to address the current national health emergency within New Jersey, and he also addressed the current school closures in our state.

During this press conference, Governor Murphy announced that all New Jersey schools will remain closed until at least Friday, May 15, 2020. Governor Murphy's closure extension will continue to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of our students, staff, and communities. Our districts will be extending the mandated school closure as follows:

The School Districts of Mainland Regional High School, Chartertech High School for the Performing Arts, Northfield, Linwood, and Somers Point are extending their closure plans and will continue to be closed until at least Friday, May 15, 2020.

Therefore, virtual/remote instruction will begin again following spring break on Monday, April 20, 2020. We will continue to monitor the information available and any details that may require a longer closure than currently planned. We will coordinate with our communities throughout the closure and will provide updates and information specific to the possible date for schools reopening. Please be sure to check with your districts' websites, social media feeds, and community outreach platforms for additional details.

We understand the impact this continues to have on our students and families, which is why our districts have come together to issue this joint statement regarding closing our schools. Each district has identified a plan for instructional continuity as well as for food distribution for eligible families in our food service programs during the school closure as mandated by the NJ DOE. Those plans will continue throughout the current extended closure. Our districts will continue to provide further information as it becomes available.

We know that this continues to be a challenging time. Our districts will remain hopeful for a return to school and opening our doors again to the children, staff, and families in our communities.

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