

Dear Staff, Parents, and Guardians:

I'm writing to touch base with you regarding our upcoming schedule as we continue to take actions related to keeping our school community safe from the impact of the Covid-19 Virus.

First, I applaud you for your outstanding adaptability as we have transitioned to distance learning for an historic three-week period. This is another testimony to how our community stakeholders are always willing to pull together to demonstrate that we value education. I guarantee that in addition to what our students are learning through our curriculum, they are learning even more valuable lessons from spending more time observing your strength, perseverance and character during this challenging time.

It's hard to believe that when I look at my calendar, it says that next week, April 6-10 is our scheduled spring break. Even if things don't feel the same, I hope you'll use this time to rest, recharge and be safe. I know that you'll develop creative ways to help your children feel at ease and I'm sure that anytime they get to stay home with you feels like a special time.

Health experts emphasize that during the next few weeks NOTHING is more important than practicing social distancing in attempts to flatten the curve of the virus to avoid further stressing hospitals and health care workers. Please repeat over and over to your students and families that we must stand 6 feet apart; cough into our elbows; sneeze into a tissue and discard it immediately; wash our hands frequently for 20 seconds or more with soap and water; clean and disinfect all frequently used surfaces, and stay home whenever you can.

After spring break, we will return to distance learning on April 13th through April 17. At that time, I hope we'll have more information about the statewide plan for opening our schools. Unfortunately, we have no established playbook telling us what comes next. However, the one thing we do know is that nothing is more important than keeping our families safe. Stay well and please continue to check our website at www.bergenfield.org/cv for the latest updates.

Finally, please join me in saying that our teachers are amazing stars shining brightly during this hazy period. And as for parents, our children are the moon and the stars, and we would do anything for them. We are proving that every day. Your brightness gives me hope and inspires me daily. I'm in awe of you and thank you for holding it all together until we can walk through the doors of our sturdy school buildings again. There are few things in life as wonderful as school.

Stay safe,

Dr. Christopher Tully

Superintendent of Schools