



MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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NATHAN N. PARKER, ED. D.

Interim Superintendent of Schools

March 18, 2020

COVID-19 Notification No. 9

Dear Families/Caregivers and Staff,

The first few days of remote learning, although challenging, reveals that students are engaged in learning and are becoming accustomed to the schedule.

We cannot take this health crisis lightly, and I urge you to make social distancing a priority.

Please see this recent clip from CNN: <https://www.cnn.com/videos/health/2020/03/18/gupta-act-like-you-have-the-coronavirus-sot-vpx.cnn>

Food Service

Please make a note of the new schedule for picking up lunch/breakfast:

Food Service will be distributing meals at the three locations: **Nishuane, Hillside, and Montclair High School 11:30 am to 1 pm** as follows:

- **The rest of this week no change**
- **Beginning Monday, March 23** and subsequent **Mondays**: Meals for Mon., Tues. and Wed. (breakfast for the next day)
- On **Thursdays**: Meals for Thursday and Friday (breakfast for the next day)
- Toni's Kitchen will provide fresh groceries for the week on Mondays at the three locations and same timeframe

Confirmed Case in our District

We, like all communities, will continue to hear about new cases, and today I learned of a positive case in our school system. A teacher at Renaissance (RMS) who was present on March 13 during Professional Development has tested positive. We cannot share any further details in order to protect the privacy of individuals. *However, please know that unless you take the responsibility for physical distancing, community spread will escalate.*

Recommendations from the NJDOH:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID19_schools_FINAL_updated_3.17.2020.pdf

From the Montclair Health Department

Persons who have been identified as a close contact with the staff member (within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more) will be contacted directly by the Health Department where the staff member resides. If you are contacted, self-isolate for 14 days. Self-isolation is a public health strategy where individuals who are sick and exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 case are separated from well persons. People who are asked to self-isolate should stay in a separate bedroom and, if possible, use a separate bathroom and have minimal contact with other persons and pets in the home. It is important that anyone who is in self-isolation should monitor symptoms in case they worsen. It is recommended that people take their temperature with a thermometer at least twice per day. If the symptoms become worse, let your health care provider know. If you go to a medical facility, be sure to call ahead and wear a face mask. Monitor yourself for symptoms. Mild symptoms may occur within 2 to 14 days. Mild symptoms do not need further attention (or testing). However, if symptoms worsen, call your health care provider. If you have trouble breathing, go to a hospital.

If you are not contacted, you are considered to be at low-risk for infection. Continue to follow the safe guidelines as outlined by the CDC during this health emergency.

Please practice good hygiene habits to help prevent disease: cough and sneeze into elbow, wash hands often for at least 20 seconds, clean and disinfect all “high touch” surfaces frequently.

I hope things go well for families of our students and of our staff.

Take care,



Dr. Nathan Parker
Interim Superintendent