March 9, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we continue to monitor the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the news, we want you to know that as always, we are closely monitoring the situation and taking guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **There is currently no recommendation to close schools in our area.** However, we have been asked by the Department of Education to act with a precautionary set of protocols and to develop a plan **should it** become necessary for school closure where the day **would still** count as a school day for students. This is called “school dismissal” meaning that school is closed, but students would still maintain learning in one form or another.

Monroe Schools is continuing our preparedness by developing lessons and communicating how lessons would be delivered to all students. In order to expedite this process, **we will have a 4-hour session day for students on Friday, March 13th** so that staff can develop strong and meaningful plans for your children in the event of “school dismissal.” If this should become necessary, you will learn more specifics from your school and teachers. The after school program will operate as it normally does on an early release day on Friday and no lunch will be served.

As always, the students and staff of Monroe Township are our number one priority and we want to do what is right for our students and be prepared should a “school dismissal” become necessary. Rest assured, we will send important updates as necessary, but please remember to go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for any questions that you have concerning the coronavirus and also check our website for updated information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your building principal or me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dori Alvich