

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools

512 Cedar Street
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076

Joan V. Mast, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

908-232-6161
Ext. 4001 or 4002

March 9, 2020

Dear SPF Community,

At this time there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our area and there is currently no recommendation to close SPF schools. However, as I shared in my letter dated March 8th, 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. In other words, the physical school buildings would be closed, but students would maintain learning at home. Please note that the determination to close schools due to a public health-related issue is made by the NJDOH or the Township Health Officer, not by the school district.

To that end, **the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools will be utilizing an unused snow day and will be closed for students on Wednesday, March 11th**. This day will allow our teachers and staff the requisite time needed to thoughtfully prepare for the scenario that schools will close, due to the coronavirus. Please note, unlike a typical snow day, **afterschool clubs and sports WILL continue as scheduled on Wednesday, March 11th**.

Teachers and aides/staff: The Administration will be meeting on Tuesday, March 10th to discuss Wednesday's Planning Day and details will be forthcoming on your designated planning location and schedule.

At this time, there are no plans in place to cancel school activities and events, such as theater productions, concerts, field trips, etc. However, we will continue to consider the potential risks associated with all of our planned activities on a case-by-case basis within the context of information available as the situation continues to unfold. We know that those who are at a higher risk should use their own discretion and sense of personal responsibility when deciding to attend activities and events.

Thank you for your partnership in helping to keep our school community safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joan V. Mast
Superintendent of Schools