

Center Moriches Union Free School District

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March 17, 2020

Dear Middle School and High School Center Moriches Families,

We hope this email finds all of you in good health during these unprecedented times. Please let this correspondence serve as a guideline for the coming weeks, based on the current information made available to us. As new information becomes available, we will be sure to inform you of updates and/or changes as quickly as possible.

As previously communicated by Dr. Masera, school will not be in session for students March 16th through April 1st. An explanation of the utilization of these days is listed in the chart below. If school is closed beyond this two week period, “distance learning” will begin. *We have been working diligently to prepare for distance learning to begin on Monday, March 30th.*

March 16 - 17	Staff Conference Days
March 18 - 20	Unused Snow Days
March 23 - 27	Spring Recess
March 30	Distance Learning will begin

Middle School and High School teachers have been preparing for the continuity of instruction during this difficult time. They have been lesson planning, and making all necessary preparations for distance learning to continue using all technological programs available to us. They have been creative to ensure that the most effective means of instruction will be provided to your child, given our resource capacity. This is new for everyone, including our faculty, and we are committed to working together to provide the best means of instruction possible.

We understand that distance learning requires the use of a technological device and internet access. To that end, we have previously collected information regarding device or wifi needs. If you need a device and have not already requested one, please contact Mr. Nofi (wnofi@cmschools.org). In addition, Altice is offering free internet options to all families during this time. Please see the link below for more information. If you need additional assistance setting up the internet for your family, please contact our School Social Worker, Mrs. Fabian (cfabian@cmschools.org).

[Link for Altice Internet Information](#)

Details regarding the distance learning process will be sent in future correspondence. At this point in time, we want families to be aware of the date we plan to begin, and to ensure that they have a device (laptop, tablet, or cell phone), as well as internet access.

Please be aware that although traditional school is not in session for our students, we would like to reiterate the advice and warnings from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and government officials that “play dates” and social gatherings should be strictly avoided. Please practice social distancing, and do your part in protecting your family, as well as the other families in our community. We want to implore Center Moriches families to follow the CDC guidelines for healthy habits and self-quarantining during this time of uncertainty.

Our psychologist, Ms. Trujillo, and social worker, Ms. Fabian, would also like to reiterate the importance of mental health during this time. Please see the link below for resources previously shared by Dr. Masera and our school's mental health team. If you feel that you and your family need additional assistance in the area of mental health during this time, please reach out the Ms. Trujillo (ltrujillo@cmschools.org) or Ms. Fabian (cfabian@cmschools.org), and they will contact you directly. [Link to Coronavirus Resources](#)

Please know that our school guidance counselors are also available to assist you during this challenging time. If you feel that your child could benefit from communication with his/her guidance counselor, please feel free to reach out to his/her counselor via email. Please visit the CM Guidance Website to contact your child's counselor directly and for other pertinent information and support. [Center Moriches Guidance Link](#)

Additionally, please refer to Dr. Masera's previous email pertaining to *Child Nutrition and Meal Availability* for further information about food pick-up locations and times. [Letter from Dr. Masera Re: Meal Availability](#)

Our district already has subscriptions to many online resources for students, and there are several valuable free online resources as well. Please feel free to check out our secondary library webpage for additional students subscriptions and resources they can access from home. [Link to Secondary Library Webpage](#)

For families of students with Autism, please see this valuable resource from *Autism Speaks* for information about how to support your children during these school closures. [Link to Autism Speaks Information](#)

Please follow us on our social media accounts for updated information, and to share what you're doing at home! We want to encourage families to share positive, in-home family activities, and be able to see what others are doing with their children in our community.

Twitter: @CenterMorichMS @CenterMorichHS @rdevilathletics Instagram: @centermorichesathletics
Hashtags: #CMPride #WeAreCM #EndlessOpportunities #CMPositivity

We want to close by acknowledging that this is an extremely stressful time for the families in our community, as well as our entire nation, and global world. Our hope is that the distance learning opportunities provided will enrich your child's experience at home, and provide the instruction necessary to continue their academic growth. Please know that your family's health and safety is, and will always be, our top priority and primary concern.

Sincerely,

Melissa L. Reggio

Melissa L. Reggio, Ed. D
Middle School Principal

Edward W. Casswell

Edward W. Casswell
High School Principal