



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jason Schimpf
School Business Administrator

May 4, 2020

Dear Kingsway & South Harrison Twp. Elementary Parents, Students, Faculty & Staff,

It is with a heavy heart that I send you this ***school closure update*** as I am keenly aware of the impact this news will have on our students, parents, faculty and staff. We will continue to update our school community accordingly but I wanted to at least provide you with a summary of the Governor's announcement and how it applies to our schools.

Today, Governor Murphy announced that New Jersey's public and private schools will not return to the traditional environment during the 2019-20 school year. The Governor's decision was based on advice from public health experts and education officials and cited the inability to guarantee the safe return of students, staff and faculty to the traditional school setting. You can watch Governor Murphy's briefing by clicking the link [here](#). However, in summary of Governor Murphy's announcement I am providing you with a several points in context of our schools.

- Kingsway Regional Middle & High School and South Harrison Twp. Elementary School will remain closed for "in-person" instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.
- Schools will continue with remote instruction through our Virtual Learning Programs.
- The spring athletic season has officially been canceled.
- The Department of Education will provide additional guidance and support regarding safe and creative ways to celebrate the Class of 2020.
- Summer programs remain uninterrupted as of the date of this letter.

Furthermore, we have scheduled virtual meetings with our high school seniors and parents of high school seniors for this coming Thursday, May 7th and separate invitations will be sent shortly. The purpose of meeting is to solicit feedback regarding options and/or alternatives to conducting end-of-year events and to facilitate more discussion regarding creative ways to celebrate our high school seniors. A similar meeting will be scheduled with our 6th grade students and parents in the coming weeks.

Lastly, I want to underscore the fact that school remains in session for all of our students. As we continue with our Virtual Learning Program, students should continue to (1) engage routinely, (2) complete their assignments, and (3) reflect on feedback provided to them from their teachers. Any modifications to grading policies during virtual learning will undoubtedly factor in regular student participation.

As a reminder, you can continue to monitor updates on our website by clicking the link [HERE](#). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Very truly yours,

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Home of the Dragons