



# KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Committed to Excellence*

*Dr. James J. Lavender*  
Superintendent of Schools

*Mr. Jason Schimpf*  
School Business Administrator

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**If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 and resources,  
Call 2-1-1 or text "NJCOVID" to 898-211 or go to our or click the link provided [HERE](#).**

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April 24, 2020

Dear School Community,

I continue to be encouraged by the many gestures of kindness, compassion and empathy bestowed upon one another throughout our school community. I see our parents go out of the way to celebrate our students, thank our teachers and support one another. Our students continue to demonstrate a positive outlook despite missing many memorable experiences. And, our faculty and staff, who continue to work hard to creatively engage our students and put smiles on the faces of those they teach, serve as a daily source of inspiration.

This week I want to share a beautiful message sent to our middle school students as a reminder that our Dragon family is strong and that we will pull through these difficult times together. Keep up the great work everybody and I miss you all!

[To Our Students: We Are Kingsway!](#)

Please take a moment to familiarize yourselves with a number of updates regarding our Virtual Learning Program, upcoming events, parent and student resources and graduation plans.

## **Virtual Learning Program Updates**

You can learn more about [Kingsway's Virtual Learning Program 2.0](#) by clicking the link provided here. The following information is an update regarding our program.

- **AP Exam Updates.** Click [here](#) to follow updates provided by College Board regarding AP Exams schedules, exam features, and other resources.
- **Technology Needs/Support.** If a student is having a technical issue, please email [support@krsd.org](mailto:support@krsd.org) with your request and detail as much information on the problem as possible. If you cannot access a computer, please and leave a voicemail at (856) 467-3300, ext. 4256 and leave a detailed message with your name, contact number, and a description of the problem.

*Home of the Dragons*

- **Grading Policies.** We recognize the use of our traditional grading policy may be difficult to rely on in this present environment. Therefore, as we continue with our Virtual Learning Program during Semester 2, 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 in these three areas. At present, our administrative team is working closely with teacher leaders to devise progressive measures that will take into consideration the many challenges impacting the teaching and learning process.

### Changes to Upcoming Orientations

- **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation.** All incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents are invited to our virtual 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Details will be sent separately.
- **Regional Field Day.** This annual event for rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders has been rescheduled from May 15<sup>th</sup> to August 26<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.
- **High School Academy Orientation.** This event has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and will be conducted through a virtual format. An invitation to this group of students and parents will follow.
- **Scholastic (Avid) Night.** For rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders participating in our Scholastics Program, this event has been scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup>.

### Class Trip Cancellations

- **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Ockanickon and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spirit of Philadelphia Trips.** These trips have unfortunately been canceled.
- **Senior Trip to Disney.** This trip has been canceled and full refunds secured for all students/parents. A [separate letter](#) was sent on April 23<sup>rd</sup> to our seniors/parents. Seniors who planned to attend this trip have received an email asking them to submit specific information so that we can process refunds.
- **World Language Trips.** These summer 2020 trips have been canceled. A [separate letter](#) was sent to our families on April 24<sup>th</sup> and outlines the very generous refund policy.

### Celebrations & Student Recognition

- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration.** Plans are underway to celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> graders through a virtual format on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow.
- **Celebrating Our Seniors Video.** Plans are underway to develop a senior video, highlighting post-high school plans. Seniors will be asked to submit an image representing the college, military or employer they will join after high school. Please look for an email in the coming days from Guidance Supervisor, Mr. Schiff, who will be soliciting this information.



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- **Senior Scholarships/Awards Banquet.** We are in the process of sorting through and naming senior scholarship and award recipients. Our Annual Senior Awards Banquet will be conducted on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> through a virtual format. Details to follow.
- **High School Prom.** The present circumstances make this year's prom unlikely to occur as scheduled on June 5<sup>th</sup>. However, in an effort to salvage prom, we are going to move prom to coincide with high school graduation. While hosting prom on the evening before graduation is not ideal, it provides our students with the best chance to host this wonderful event. Therefore, if graduation is moved to one of the alternative dates below, prom too will move accordingly. Please review the high school graduation options below.

### High School Graduation

We are committed to recognizing and celebrating our seniors at graduation. However, our plans are predicated upon social gathering restrictions being lifted. While we cannot anticipate what the State of New Jersey will do in this regard, we are moving ahead with plans for a "live event" as well as contingency plans to move graduation and/or conduct a virtual graduation, if necessary. Therefore, I provide you with these tentative plans so that our seniors, parents, faculty and staff can plan accordingly. Be advised that this situation is fluid and may require additional changes.

- **Option A: Live Graduation, Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am)** – Graduation practice and gown/yearbook pickup.
  - **Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Prom at Adventure Aquarium.
  - **Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Graduation will occur on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, at the high school stadium (rain date Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am).

***In the event that prom and graduation cannot occur on June 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have the option to reschedule these events one week later as follows:***

- **Option B: Live Graduation, Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am)** – Graduation practice and gown/yearbook pickup.
  - **Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Prom at Adventure Aquarium.
  - **Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Graduation will occur on Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, at the high school stadium (rain date Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am).

***In the event that prom and graduation cannot occur by June 26<sup>th</sup>, we will have the option to reschedule these events for mid-July as follows:***

- **Option C: Live Graduation, Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am)** – Graduation practice and gown/yearbook pickup.
  - **Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Prom at Adventure Aquarium.
  - **Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> (6:00 pm)** – Graduation will occur on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, at the high school stadium (rain date Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am).



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***In the event that a "Live Graduation" ceremony cannot occur; plans are in place to conduct a virtual graduation ceremony on June 19<sup>th</sup> and/or on any of the contingency dates described above.***

### **Student Health, Welfare and Engagement**

- **Parent Resources.** We recognize that the current environment has been challenging to our parents for a host of reasons. Therefore, please go to our Parent Corner for upcoming webinars designed specifically for parents. There are presently five webinars being provided by High Focus Centers and the first, ***Coping with Anxiety & Depression during COVID-19*** is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Email [jbramble@highfocuscenters.com](mailto:jbramble@highfocuscenters.com) to receive the live webinar link. To learn more about this webinar and several more, click [here](#).
- **Contact your Counselor.** We continue to recognize the challenges our current environment presents our students and we encourage them to utilize their school counselor for social/emotional support, academic guidance and college/career planning. School counselor contact information can be found [here](#).
- **Student Disengagement/Weekly Parental Contact.** Teachers are strongly encouraged to identify students who are not engaged in instruction/assignment completion and to reach out to those students' parents, via email or phone, each week, to let them know what assignments their child is missing.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this communication. 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

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