



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jason Schimpf
School Business Administrator

March 20, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians & Students,

It has been just over seven weeks since [I first communicated](#) to our school community about the potential threat of COVID-19. And, unlike any event before, I am resolved to believe that communicating updates to you on our COVID-19 preparedness plans, virtual learning programs, and new school norms will remain a priority in the weeks and months ahead.

Now that we begin the second week of our [Virtual Learning Program](#), accepting and adjusting to a “new normal” is an important part of being prepared. After all, it is our attitude that determines how we will cope during this pandemic and our inner dialogue of self-encouragement and self-motivation is our choice. As Dragons, we have learned to persevere, to meet challenges as they are presented, and to see adversity as an opportunity to grow. To be a Dragon means you are **Committed to Excellence**, and I am encouraging each one of you to look at this moment as an opportunity to grow. An opportunity to be innovative. And, as an opportunity to strive for continuous improvement, regardless of our circumstances.

The purpose of this email is ensure our parents and students that all is well at Kingsway and teaching and learning has continued with little interruption. Below, I want to update you on a number of items and point you to some important and helpful resources at this time.

- **How can I get support for my child?** Parents can access a number of resources posted on our website at [Kingsway's Virtual Learning Program](#). This site is loaded with a number of tips for our parents such as Google Classroom tutorials to virtual counselor and special education supports. We have posted an interested article entitled, “[9 tips for parents navigating online learning with their children due to Coronavirus.](#)” While these tips are all helpful, I believe strongly that helping your child establish a schedule and routine will assist tremendously in achieving success.
- **What if I need assistance with technology?** If your child has any issues with accessing Google Classroom and/or technology issues in general, please email support@krsd.org or call (856) 467-3300, Ext. 4256 for direct support.
- **Student engagement.** This week I have directed teachers and school personnel to monitor the level of student engagement in our Virtual Learning Program. The purpose is two-fold: (1) are there any barriers keeping a child from engaging in virtual instruction (i.e. inadequate technology); and/or, (2) is there another root cause that school personnel can assist with (i.e. helping students establish schedules, routines, etc.) As a result, administrators and counselors have made efforts to contact parents via telephone in an effort to assist and support. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we hope to support our students and set them up for success. Therefore, please reach out to your school counselor or an administrator if you need support.

Home of the Dragons

Virtual School Counseling Supports

Mr. Schiff, Guidance Supervisor
Schiffm@krsd.us

Grade 8: Mrs. Kupsey
Classroom Code: [tcvr3z6](#)

Grade 7: Mrs. Henry
Classroom Code: [plpvq4x](#)

Grades 9-12: High School Counselors assign students alphabetically; this information and counselor emails are found at the link above.

Virtual Child Study Team Supports

Dr. Hoffman, CST Director
Hoffmans@krsd.us

Individual websites and emails are attached at the link above.

- **Seniors & Senior Trip:** Our school closure is especially troubling for our high school seniors and we want you to know that we are investigating avenues to provide as many meaningful experiences for you as possible. Our hearts go out to you, but we greatly appreciate your resolve and leadership at this time. With regard to the Senior Trip to Disney, please know that the trip has been postponed; and we are working daily with World Class Travel to reschedule in late May or early June, if possible. More to come on this topic.
- **Free/Reduced Lunch Program:** The Kingsway Regional School District will continue to offer “grab and go” meals designed to meet the nutritional needs set forth by the USDA Child Nutrition Program during a school closure. Families receiving meal benefits are encouraged to contact **Ms. Holly Haynes at 856-467-3300 x4227** for more information.
- **Please Support our Local Restaurants, Eateries and Businesses:** Our local businesses have repeatedly supported our students and programs through countless sponsorships, donations and discounts. Now is the time to pay it forward and do what we can to support them. The attached link below is a list of local restaurants, eateries and businesses that I have been in touch with, which includes links to their websites, business hours, delivery/take-out options and specials. I have continued to say that this crisis extends beyond our school walls and we have a greater responsibility to practice social distancing while supporting one another. Let us remember our restaurants, eateries and other local businesses at this time.

[Support our Local Restaurants, Eateries and Businesses](#)

You can monitor updates on our website by clicking the link [HERE](#). Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. If you would like to talk to a qualified healthcare professional, the NJ Department of Health has established a 24-Hour Public Hotline at **1-800-222-1222**.

Very truly yours,



Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools



Commitment to Excellence