



Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

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Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

March 15, 2020

Dear Valley Stream Thirteen Union Free School District Community,

This morning, all Nassau County School Districts were notified that Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, in coordination with the Nassau County Department of Health ordered all schools throughout Nassau County be closed for two weeks starting tomorrow, Monday, March 16 through Friday, March 27. The executive order was given as part of the County's efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). During this extended period of closure, the District will initiate additional rounds of sanitizing and cleaning of all District facilities. The District is continually working with all regulatory agencies that govern the work of public schools to ensure we are following proper guidelines related to this emergency closure.

Please note that a Districtwide closure means all school activities, meetings, and events are canceled. We do not currently have specific information on the rescheduling of these activities. Once decisions are made when, and if, rescheduling will occur, we will get that information out to the community and the specific groups impacted. For more information about community resources and updates on specific programs, please visit the District's website, <http://valleystream13.com/home/covid-19-info-resources/>.

We understand that this announcement poses an inconvenience to our community. The spread of the coronavirus is continuously changing the world in which we are living. This is an evolving situation and we thank you for your patience and flexibility. While we know the closure is a disruption, it is important to remember that every step we take is intended to put the safety of our community first.

Over the past several weeks, the Valley Stream Thirteen Union Free School District's central administration and Board of Education have been working diligently to prepare for the potential of school closures to minimize the interruption of our students' educational experience during this time of uncertainty. This past Friday, we sent home a Continuity of Instruction packet that provides 10 days of instructional activities. Though we recognize that this cannot take the place of in-class instruction, this will help bridge the gap until we are back in school.

We also understand that families whose children rely on food services from the District are concerned about how this will be maintained during school closures. These plans are being finalized and we will reach out to those families directly impacted by this issue.

This is a difficult time for all of us. For those with questions about the District's protocols and procedures, I encourage you to continue reviewing the district website. I will provide regular updates using the website and our one call messaging service. For any medical-related questions, please contact the Nassau County Department of Health or your family physician.

We thank you for your continued patience and trust.

Sincerely,

Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools