Dear Parents,

On Friday, March 6th, I sent a letter regarding COVID-19. In that letter I conveyed that the New Jersey Department of Health’s (NJDOH) published guidance emphasizing that the most important thing for schools to do is plan and prepare. Among other planning procedures, the guidance advised that “schools may be asked to close preemptively or reactively, therefore schools should be making plans for what to do if there are recommendations for closing schools or cancelling events.” **Our plans continue to evolve.**

Today, the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders issued a statement regarding two **presumptive positive** coronavirus cases in Monmouth County, one of which is in Little Silver. The 27-year-old male has a sibling at RBR, but there are NOT younger children within our school district.

This afternoon, I participated in a local meeting with a Monmouth County Health Official, town officials, EMT, LS Police, and the RBR Superintendent. The Department of Health is strongly recommending that symptomatic individuals should immediately contact their primary health care physician regarding testing measures. PLEASE utilize the **CDC website** to obtain up-to-date information.

The Department of Health has shared that the **combined time period** for an individual to be symptomatic AND post symptomatic can span 2-24 days. Therefore, while we already implemented increased cleaning protocols, we are officially cancelling all afterschool activities (excluding Aftercare) for the week so that we can conduct **systematic cleaning procedures**. To date, we have been using a hospital-grade product to more extensively clean classrooms and environments, with special attention being paid to those locations where absenteeism has been high. Beginning this week, we have created a plan to deep clean **every classroom** and common areas.

While we are actively monitoring the guidance from State and National Public Health Agencies regarding cleaning protocols, we continue to implore you to reinforce best practices for minimizing the spread of germs with your own children including but not limited to:

- Washing hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Students and employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are advised to stay home and not come to work/school

Information will continue to be posted regularly as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools