



LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

124 Willow Drive, Little Silver, NJ 07739

Dr. Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools

Tel: 732-741-2188
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March 12, 2020

Dear Parents,

As you know, a letter was sent out yesterday explaining that after consultation with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission and medical professionals, there was no recommendation to close any of the PK-8 sending school districts at this time. To the contrary, a concern was expressed that if parents are not prepared to quarantine their children for an undermined amount of time, then there is a potential greater risk to the community at large. Further, even those individuals who may have come in “close contact” with a “presumed positive” individual may still be determined “low risk.” As an educator, I heeded the advice of the medical professionals. That said, community concern ultimately influenced the decision to close our school district. At this time, there are no “presumptive positive” cases in our district nor have we received any notification from the Health Department that there are any cases being investigated for children in our PreK-8 district. I am well aware of the fact that the COVID-19 issue changes hourly and our situation could change at any time.

For now, the district will be utilizing our unused snow days for today and tomorrow. Beginning Monday, March 16th, the district will begin to implement a remote learning plan. We have been preparing for the possibility of implementing a plan for quite some time. There are many layers to this issue that non-educators may not have considered, but these issues have added to the complexity of our challenges. At this time, I have no way of predicting when school will re-open. There is no date in the foreseeable future. This decision is dependent upon whether the “presumptive positive” cases remain contained.

I am working closely with the Executive County Superintendent, Senator O’Scanlon, and the Commissioner of Education to gain approval for remote learning constituting “school days” when our district does not have any COVID-19 cases. In the absence of that approval, we will be required to make up school days. While I respectfully understand that everyone has an opinion, guidance from the NJDOE, MCRHC, and NJDOH will continue to inform the district’s decision-making.

The Remote Learning Device Survey informed the district in terms of how many devices need to be deployed. Chrome Books will be distributed tomorrow, March 13th in the school gymnasiums. Parents will enter the respective gymnasiums through the direct entrances to those facilities according to the following schedule:

- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Grades K-2 PR Gym
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Grades 3-4 PR Gym
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Grades 5-6 MP Gym
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Grades 7-8 MP Gym

If you have children in multiple grade levels in one school that span both timeframes, please come to the earlier time slot.



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The district website has a [Remote Learning Center for LS Parents](#). This can be found on the Parent Quicklink on the homepage.

Quick Links

COVID-19 UPDATE CENTER 

PARENTS

-  REMOTE LEARNING CENTER for Little Silver Parents
-  Genesis Parent Portal
-  Board Policies and School Procedure
-  Contact the Nurse
-  HIB
-  My School Bucks (online payments)

This resource provides parents with guidelines to support your children as we implement our Continuity of Learning Plan.

The Point Road Interventionists will provide Tier II and Tier III students with books and materials that can be picked up along with computers.

Students receiving services via Related Service providers (i.e. Speech, OT, PT) will not receive services until school re-opens. Legally, we are not permitted to provide any of these services virtually.

This issue will continue to evolve every day. As educators, we recognize this is a challenging time for all of us. I will continue to provide information as it becomes available to me.

Sincerely,



Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools