



LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents and Community Members,

We hope this letter finds you and your family WELL. This is an extremely challenging time for all individuals, families, businesses, organizations and of course students, teachers, and their schools. We are reaching out to assure you we are continually monitoring the evolving situation in our state and local community, and will make the best decisions for our children and school staff each step of the way.

Please know the decision to close Little Silver Schools was made with much thought and deliberation. Many social, economic, academic and health issues were considered, but ultimately we decided to act with utmost caution on behalf of our children, their families and our staff. To that end, we respectfully remind you that the goal of "containment" and minimizing the impact of COVID-19 will only be achieved with full community cooperation. It is imperative that we practice "social distancing" and that children actually stay home during this period of remote learning, so that we can get back to the classroom as soon as possible.

We are proud of our teachers and administration for launching our district's remote learning programs so efficiently. This was a multi-layered task requiring incredible coordination between departments and staff. We credit the success of this process to the policies and materials that were already in place, the leadership of our administrative team, and the diligence of our teachers. We anticipate that our students will continue to thrive and return to school seamlessly. Parent involvement and patience with this process cannot be underestimated or underappreciated. The Board of Education is grateful for both the dedication of our teachers as well as the commitment of our students' parents.

We realize these are stressful and uncertain times. As parents we have a tremendous opportunity to teach our kids how to handle an event of this magnitude. While our schools and community are making a concerted effort to provide some level of normalcy and routine for our students, please don't feel pressure to replace every aspect of life with a virtual substitute. Little Silver is a strong, smart community that will not only survive but thrive through this crisis. Our good example today will help future generations navigate challenges with confidence and grace.

The Board of Education is proud to serve Little Silver in these trying times. Again, our thanks for your continued patience and support. We look forward to a healthy return to school as soon as it is deemed safe.

Sincerely,

Andrew Walsby, President - Little Silver Board of Education