

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, I had the opportunity to visit virtually with some of the classes. I so miss being with the kids. Our attendance is superior – no absences – **we are Califon Strong!** During our weekly faculty meeting, our teachers expressed how engaged our students are with their classes. Our teachers are engaged. Faculty meetings have a new meaning and Mr. Patton and Ms. Zarra have become my constant companions. As we move forward, Mr. Patton and the teachers are exploring different platforms to engage the kids. This situation causes a pause to reflect on the development of a balance. The Califon culture is a nurturing culture for the children; that does not cease due to the “building” being closed – we continue – we “point due north.” We take care of our children and offer support to our neighbors. It is imperative that you reach out to us should you require anything. Please, we are still your support group. The parents and guardians are respected for their vital role in making this “new normal” work.

My family is fine – my grandchildren are fine – Ron and I are having dinner in the dining room tonight – a change. Today, I planted pansies – Spring.

For those of you who have high school students, I share this email I received from a parent:

“My daughter was late to class because of traffic on the stairs and my son was grilling during his lunch period.”

I laughed – I needed to laugh. Please tell the kids I said “Hi” and that I miss them. I wish you and your family well – be well.

Johanna Ruberto
Interim Superintendent

The following information is offered:

Continued School Closure

The pandemic situation has shown increased cases throughout New Jersey. This has led the Governor to place additional restrictions on movement within the state last weekend. The faculty continues to plan until we receive notification from state or county officials to do otherwise. Schools will be closed for a period yet to be determined.

Report Cards

The end of the MP is 3/31. Grades will be open to parents in the portal no later than April 6.

Building Closure

Our school has been cleaned and sanitized and is closed to the public. The building is monitored daily.

State Testing

The Governor has cancelled all statewide student assessments for the spring 2020 testing window; the upcoming administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA), ACCESS for ELLs, and the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment. Therefore, all testing dates have been cancelled.

Resources:

Parents and guardians in need of childcare can contact the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency in their county. CCR&Rs will have the most up to date information on available care options and subsidies.

Go to https://www.nj.gov/dcf/coronavirus_licensedchildcare.html.