

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

I hope you are well and, like all of us, navigating our current “Stay at Home” challenges. Last week, I had the opportunity to visit with each grade-level. The kids look great, engaged, good sense of humor, and appear to have adjusted to the “virtual classroom.” Hat Day, head stands, cartwheels, visiting with my students who are sitting in their bedrooms; we all laughed about our new environment.

Continuous communication with the faculty is maintained. Our faculty and staff are to be commended for their professionalism, focus, and genuine interest in our children. Each week, there are revisions to our learning plan. Recent formalization is the inclusion of Ms. Patterson’s visits to class meetings. The intent is to offer information, and to determine if the kids have any questions/concerns. Califon strong - children first.

The Califon Board of Education continues to meet. The April 29, 2020 meeting of the Board offered the formal presentation of the Califon School District 2020-2021 Budget. Please visit the district web site for additional information. The next meeting of the Board is May 13, 2020, our school may be closed but we continue our work in the service of children and community.

Moving forward, we are finalizing information focused upon the activities for the eight-grade, and the reopening of our district. Yes, reopening. A formal committee has been established as we collaborate to prepare for the Califon School to reopen the doors. We may not know when, but we all know the reopening will occur. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will be issuing the requirements. Administration and committee members have attended webinars and information, as determined, will be offered to all external constituency groups (Hunterdon Health Department, Washington Twps. Police Department, Borough, Fire Department).

As we all await information focused upon the final months of school, our educational community is maintaining a focus upon our children and the fine traditions of service, care and recognition for our community. The following dates and information are offered:

End of Year Activities

- Formative Assessments – End of May
- **Grades 6- 7- 8 Academic Achievement Awards**
 - Thursday, May 7, 2020 6:00 PM “Zoom”
- **K Round-up** – Week of May 18 – Thank you Ms. Mitzak
- **Eighth-grade Activities** - Thank you Ms. Weiss/Ms. Heuneman
 - The following was established/confirmed:
 - Both Mr. Patton and Dr. Ruberto have visited with our eighth-grade students and informed the kids about the plans for promotion
 - The “Promotion” will be offered on June 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Vehicle TBD

- Eighth-grade advisors are currently confirming all award sponsors and speakers.
- Each graduate will compose and offer an essay at the ceremony
- Program will not change
- There are “planned” additions to celebrate and offer personalization for our students

Ms. Zarra, Business Administrator, continues to maintain all functions of our district and monitors our facility. Maintenance projects are in process and planned as we prepare for the reopening of our school. Pre-K Registration has been announced, Ms. French-Gonzalez maintains our web site and all communication.

Although Mr. Patton and I maintain constant and daily communication with our teachers regarding all of our students and any individualized observations, we are here for **you** as well. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Patton or myself with any questions/concerns/**challenges** and observations. The beauty of our school is individualization – we are **here**.

dpatton@califonschool.org

jruberto@califonschool.org

Dr. Michele Cone, CSA, has started her transition to the Califon Public School District. Dr. Cone had the opportunity to meet the faculty, an exciting time for Califon.

Stay well, be safe,

Johanna S. Ruberto

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 4 - May 8