



# ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MRS. PHYLLIS ALPAUGH  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

## Rockaway Borough School District Corona Virus Information End of School June 15, 2020

Dear Rockaway Borough Families,

I hope you and your families are well. I would like to begin by saying THANK YOU for your tremendous support, help and cooperation during the past few months. There is no question our transition to quarantined life and distance learning has been challenging, but we in the Borough are very grateful for everything you have done to support us, but more importantly your children. We have all certainly learned much in regards to distance learning and all that it involves, but also know moving forward, there is still much for us to learn to best serve our students and meet their needs whether it is virtually or face to face. For now, we are grateful for the upcoming summer break so we can all take some much needed time to rewind, relax and recharge before September.

As we officially wrap up the 2019-20 school year, here is some end of year “bookkeeping” information to help us all transition to the summer:

- Our last day of school is officially Monday June 15<sup>th</sup>. Report cards will be accessible through the parent portal on OnCourse that same day.
- The last day for on-site meal distribution will also be Monday 6/15. After that date, the summer meals program will start on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup> with distribution at various sites in Dover. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for more information.
- Bagged belongings for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be available on Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup> when we host our Drive-Up Graduation Event. At that time, we will also be collecting 8<sup>th</sup> grade Chromebooks, textbooks, library books, graphing calculators or any other school issued materials.
- As for other students who have school issued items and were unable to drop them off previously, feel free to leave them in the recycling bin situated on the front porch of the White House, and we will make sure they are delivered to the proper individuals.
- For the safety of students and staff, all summer programs (Extended School Year and Summer Enrichment) will be held virtually.
- Students in grades 4-7 will be keeping their Chromebooks over the summer, but only those attending school designated programs will have access to school applications.
- If you have a potential kindergarten student for the 20-21 school year in your household or know of one in the Borough, registration is being conducted online through our website at [www.rockboro.org](http://www.rockboro.org).
- In addition, our annual re-registration for students entering grades 3 and 6 will also be conducted online but through the Family ID site sometime after July 1<sup>st</sup>. More information will follow for those families.

While the above will provide you with information to close out the year, I am sure the big question on your mind is what lies ahead for September as there are still so many unknowns. Presently, the district has formed a Reopen School Committee composed of a variety of school and community stakeholders to undertake that very challenge with the overall hope and belief that we can reopen in September. This of course, however, will depend on many factors, the safety and well-being of students and staff being the number one priority, but also the guidance and direction from the New Department of Education, the New Jersey Department of Health, the Governor's Office, local health officials as well as the district's ability to successfully comply and deliver instruction safely and efficiently to all students. Six areas in particular will be driving our work and include the following:

1. Wellness- the physical and emotional support of students, their families and staff
2. Curriculum and the Delivery of Instruction as well as the delivery of all special and related services
3. Facilities--proper disinfecting and sanitizing of all facilities and ways to adhere to proper social distancing
4. Governance--attendance, enrollment and use of human resources
5. School Operations--school calendars, schedules, finances, transportation and meal distribution
6. Technology-availability of devices, access to technology and the use of digital platforms.

As we consider each of the six areas, we will also be planning for what they look like in four different educational scenarios as directed by the NJ DOE so we will be potentially prepared and ready in regards to future health situations around the state as well as state and local mandates.

- All students in the physical building
- Some students in physical buildings with some virtual
- All students virtual
- Intermittent virtual

To help us with our work and assist us in making the best decisions for our school community, I am attaching a link to a brief survey for you to complete so we can get of an idea of how best to address your needs and concerns. [Reopen School Survey](#)

As always, thank you so much for all your support and cooperation in working with us during this difficult time. Hopefully, within the next few weeks, we will be receiving additional guidance from the state about how we can actively plan for the coming school year. In the meantime, please know we will continue to post information on the district website as well as send out pertinent communications to keep you informed throughout the summer months.

Best wishes, stay safe and enjoy the summer.

Sincerely yours.



Phyllis Alpaugh  
Superintendent