

CHAPLIN, HAMPTON, SCOTLAND AND REGIONAL DISTRICT #11
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
304 Parish Hill Road
Chaplin, CT 06235-0277

December 8, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you are aware, a member of our school community recently tested positive for COVID-19, prompting contact tracing by the Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD) and school administration. This tracing revealed a number of students and staff as “close contacts,” thus mandating their quarantining for 14 days. At the time, EHHD recommended that Parish Hill not close school since contact tracing had been completed and the appropriate persons had been quarantined.

This week, circumstances have changed and after consultation with EHHD regarding a positive adult case and a few “presumptive” positive cases in the Parish Hill community, **we are moving to the full Distance Learning Mode effective tomorrow, Wednesday, December 9 whereby all students will learn from home through December 23.** The reason for transitioning to a full Distance Learning Mode is to provide adequate time for EHHD and Parish Hill to conduct contact tracing in order to notify any member or members of the school community who may be required to quarantine for up to 14 days. Equally important, this contact tracing is designed to prevent the potential spread of the virus in the school and local community. This situation will be continuously monitored by EHHD and district and school administration and we will be in contact with families with further information and instruction as it becomes available.

The full Distance Learning Schedule can be located at:

<http://www.parishhill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Distance-Learning-Schedule-2020-2021-final.pdf>. **Please note that students will be expected to log into their A Period Google Classroom accounts tomorrow morning at 8:30am in order to be prepared.** The Wednesday schedule for distance learning ends at 12:00pm thus allowing time for parents and students to consult with teachers as necessary during Open Office hours from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. Also, Food Services Director, Jessica Texera, will be providing boxed breakfasts/lunches in the area of the school already designated for pick-up. Ms. Texera will be e-mailing you a letter today that provides details to all parents regarding these meals.

We realize that students learn best with in-person learning. However, the safety and welfare of our students and staff will always be paramount in any decisions that we make. Our staff and students have performed admirably under very difficult circumstances. However, our health experts at Eastern Highlands Health District have recommended this course of action and we will always rely on their expert advice to keep our school community safe. The time is now to switch to a full distance model through the holiday break to maximize the safety and welfare of all involved.

Please stay safe and be well.

Sincerely,

Kenneth V. Henrici
Superintendent