

## Southern Regional School District COVID-19 Information

From the outset of the ever evolving COVID-19 world health event, the Southern Regional School District has been closely monitoring the situation, evaluating our practices, and preparing for potential impacts to our students, staff and the educational process. Below is some information we wish to share for the purpose of keeping you informed.

### Facility Cleaning Procedures

The Southern Regional School District has implemented aggressive cleaning and sanitizing procedures that are utilized each year during flu season and are currently being followed.

These procedures include:

- daily cleaning and disinfection of all touch points in the district including, but not limited to, doors, water fountain/bottle fillers, stair railings and lockers
- daily cleaning and disinfection of all desks
- daily cleaning and disinfection of all common areas such as cafeterias, libraries and gymnasiums
- daily cleaning and disinfection of all bathrooms and locker rooms
- daily disinfection of all school busses.

In addition, all facilities staff continue to sanitize and inspect bathrooms several times per shift for cleanliness and the availability of soap. All of the chemicals and procedures used by the district for cleaning and disinfection meet or exceed the current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The district will continue to monitor guidance from both the CDC and the EPA as well as the NJ Department of Health and will modify our procedures as necessary based on issued guidance.

### School Closing

The New Jersey Department of Health and the Ocean County Department of Health are the agencies that have the authority to close school. Should that directive be given, Southern Regional is prepared to continue the educational process via online learning activities facilitated by the students' classroom teachers. The New Jersey Department of Education has informed us that should school be closed due to a mandated health directive, virtual home instruction will qualify toward the statutory 180 day school year.

### Virtual Instruction

Access to instruction for all students will be provided by way of Google Classroom which is already in use by our current staff and students. Students who do not have computer access are being identified and alternative instructional resources will be provided. Daily instructional units will be published by teachers and virtual learning activities will be maintained throughout the closure. Teachers are currently working with students to establish the online learning procedures and protocols and will continue this preparation during the next few school days. Administrative access to each classroom's module will provide accountability, monitoring and technological support. Graduation requirements have been well established at this point of the school year, and

twelfth grade student progress specific to graduation requirements will be monitored by guidance counselors throughout any closure.

### Special Needs Students

Special education services will be provided as is practicable. Cognitive learning activities will be provided for as per the Virtual Instruction information above. Special services (ie. occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, et al.) that require one-to-one interactions will be provided on a recovery basis when normal school resumes.

### Free and Reduced Lunch Students

The District's food service provider, Pomptonian, has developed a breakfast and lunch "grab-and-go" program in which the school cafeteria will serve as the food preparation area where qualifying students will be given the opportunity to come into the school and pick-up pre-prepared meals.

### School Trips

There is a moratorium on approving new trip requests. Trips that have already been approved are being evaluated and a "go, no-go" decision is being made on a case-by-case basis.

### Personal Protection Measures

The New Jersey Department of Health has published the below listed guidelines for students and staff to follow while school is in session.

1. Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or cough and sneeze into your sleeve, not your hands.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
3. Wash hands often for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing. Use alcohol based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
4. Stay home from class and work if you're sick.
5. Avoid people who are sick.
6. Get a flu shot – it's not too late to be protected.