



**Olga Hugelmeyer**  
Superintendent of Schools

March 30, 2020

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Community:

I hope you all are well as we continue to face circumstances that have challenged the resolve of the Elizabeth community, the people of the United States, and those around the globe. The members of the Elizabeth school community and the greater Elizabeth community both have a long history of coming together to lift one another and persevere through difficult times. It brings me comfort to know that this situation is no different.

First, I want to congratulate our students and families on completing the second week of learning at home through our E-Remote Learning. Our students, families, and team members have shown enormous patience, grace, and strength as we navigate this uncharted territory together. The commitment and effort our students have given to their education during this time of remote learning has been inspirational.

The health of all community members continues to be our top priority as the spread of COVID-19 remains on an unpredictable path. The State of New Jersey has taken severe measures to “flatten the curve” of the virus and to ensure its residents are as safe as possible, including a stay-at-home order for residents and the closing of non-essential businesses among others.

The public health threat of COVID-19 is unlike anything we have experienced before, and it is understandable if you have anxious moments. Elizabeth Public Schools will continue to keep you informed on general issues related to COVID-19 while remaining focused on our responsibility of educating students during these unprecedented times.

If you have concerns about your health or that of a family member you should immediately contact a doctor or healthcare provider. Federal, state, and local health authorities have established numerous resources and the state has established a central resource location at <http://covid19.nj.gov> We have posted some of these resources on our website as well:  
[www.epsnj.org/coronavirus](http://www.epsnj.org/coronavirus)

If you are concerned that you have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 please contact your doctor. In confirmed cases, you will be contacted by health officials during their investigative process.

**Office of the Superintendent of Schools**

Please use the resources we have provided as well as those that can be found on local, state, and national health officials websites as a guide of monitoring your own health. If you or a member of your family is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please consult your healthcare provider for further medical advice and guidance.

As a reminder, public health officials have recommended individuals follow these guidelines:

- Practice social distancing by remaining at least six feet from others
- Prevent the spread of germs by covering coughs and sneezes.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. If you use a tissue, throw it in the trash.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay away from others if you are sick and avoid sick people.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19, you may call the New Jersey Department of Health at 1-800-962-1253, dial 211, text NJCOVID to 898-211, or visit <http://covid19.nj.gov> or [nj.gov/health](http://nj.gov/health) for additional information.

Please continue to practice the public health guidelines above to help keep yourself and those around you safe. We will get through this together. Stay strong, stay safe, and be well.

Sincerely,



Olga Hugelmeyer

Elizabeth Public Schools offers translation accessibility of district communication and materials. For further assistance, please contact [hugelmol@epsnj.org](mailto:hugelmol@epsnj.org).

Las Escuelas Públicas de Elizabeth ofrecen accesibilidad de traducción de comunicación y materiales del distrito. Para obtener más ayuda, comuníquese con [hugelmol@epsnj.org](mailto:hugelmol@epsnj.org).

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في حالة الحاجة لهذه الخدمة المقدمة اتصل [hugelmol@epsnj.org](mailto:hugelmol@epsnj.org).