



May 6, 2020

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

Dear Proud Elizabeth Public School Nurse,

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected all 50 states in our nation, resulting in over a million people throughout the country facing a life-threatening illness and a health care system being extended to its very ends. In New Jersey alone, over 125,000 residents have tested positive for coronavirus, with Union County being among the most affected counties in the state.

The mass number of illnesses has called on many in the medical field to take on new challenges and responsibilities in the battle against COVID-19. Among those who are on the front lines of this battle are nurses, some who have been called on from different hospital units and others who do not work at hospitals at all that have volunteered their time to join the fight. The common thread between all of these nurses are their willingness to sacrifice their own time with their families and their personal well-being to help save the lives of others.

During National Nurses Week, we honor nurses everywhere for their courage, bravery, sacrifice, and determination to serve and keep their communities well. In particular, we would like to offer our heartfelt gratitude for all of our Elizabeth Public Schools nurses who do so much each day to ensure the wellness of our students and team members so they can achieve excellence both inside and outside the classroom.

Several of our nurses have also been inspired to join the battle against COVID-19, including contributing to the efforts of gathering personal protective equipment supplies to support those treating patients with coronavirus, serving as nurses at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth, and volunteering at the Union County Testing Center at Kean University to administer tests to those who potentially have coronavirus.

When that special day comes when we are able to return to our buildings and be together again, our nurses will be among our most highly valued members to serve on our taskforce for the reopening of schools.

On behalf of the Elizabeth Board of Education and the Elizabeth Public Schools community, we offer our thanks and deepest appreciation to Elizabeth Public Schools nurses and nurses everywhere for the countless lives you make better each day and the hundreds of thousands of lives you have already helped saved and will continue to help save during this pandemic. While these unprecedented circumstances continue to challenge our resolve, they also reveal our strength and character, with our nurses serving as one of our greatest examples.

Sincerely,

Diane Barbosa
Board President

Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

Elizabeth Board of Education



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