



March 26, 2020

Dear BRICK Education Network Families:

As mentioned in a previous letter, based on the guidance of our local and state civic and health officials **all BRICK Education Network schools and facilities will be closed until further notice**. While we initially planned for a two-week closing, our Covid-19 Task Force has regrouped to create new Learning at Home lessons and new food distribution procedures. Following are details regarding what to expect in the coming weeks:

Learning at Home Resources

- New Learning at Home packages, for PreK to 8th grade students, will be mailed to your homes. Please ensure your child's teacher or school's office manager has your most current address and contact information.
Expect packages to arrive beginning March 27th. If you do not receive a package by April 1st please contact your child's teacher.
- **High School students will transition to virtual learning for all classes.** It is imperative that high school scholars check their school email accounts daily. If anyone has trouble accessing their school-based email, please contact techsupport@brickeducation.org.
- **More learning will take place online for all students**, therefore it is vital that parents and high school students check their emails, check school websites for class schedules, and other online resources identified by teachers and school leaders daily.
- **Responsiveness to teacher contact (email or phone call) and completion of home packages or virtual instruction assignments is required to record your child's attendance. All assignments will be graded.**

Food Distribution

- Grab and Go meals will be provided for families on:
 - Mondays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (a 3-day supply will be available)
 - Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (a 2-day supply will be available)
- Meals for all schools (Achieve, PAC, STEAM and HS) will be distributed at **MPTCS High School, 125 Sussex Ave., in the rear parking lot (located on Newark Street, between Sussex Ave. and Orange St.)**. If you have any questions regarding food distribution, please forward a text to **862.520.2982**.

- Please refer to <https://bit.ly/2wylvlR> to find out more about additional resources for food

Healthcare

Both local and national news reports have made us aware of the growing number of people who have tested positive for Covid-19. There are approximately 4,500 people who have tested positive for Covid-19 in New Jersey by date of this letter; the number continues to rise in Newark and areas in the South and Central Wards have been identified as *hotspot* zones. With this in mind, we should all assume we have been in the vicinity of someone who has been exposed or tested positive for Covid-19.

Please continue to be safe:

Limit your interactions with others; practice social distancing, wash your hands and sanitize frequently touched surfaces.

Support Services

The physical and mental health of our families and staff is important to us as well. Should you need someone to help you with coping skills; give guidance and encouragement for both adults and students, and/or provide additional resources, please do not hesitate to reach out to the South Ward Children's Alliance and Promise Neighborhood Family Hub contact Thea Moss at tmoss@brickeducation.org or 862-214-4200. The SWCA is offering the following services:

- SWCA Touchless Emergency Food and Health & Wellness Care Pack Delivery Service: To ensure families maintain healthy nutrition and homes.
- One-to-One Virtual Support with an SWCA Master Level Social Worker: To ensure families have supportive solutions and tools.
- One-to-One Virtual Support Grief Support from IMAGINE
- Emergency Resources and Cash Assistance from our SWCA Family HUB
- Enhanced government assistance navigation (with the new Federal Stimulus package)

Additionally, families can contact your school social worker:

- Nina Essel - Achieve Elementary School - nessel@achieveccs.org
- Jahmal Nelson - Achieve Middle School - jnelson@achieveccs.org
- Kenya Roper - MPTCS PAC Academy - kroper@mptcs.org
- Gayle Brown - MPTCS STEAM Academy - gaylebrown@mptcs.org
- Mashawnda Bell - MPTCS High School Social Worker - mbell@mptcs.org

Let's continue to stay informed and connected during this time. We will get through this as a community.

Regards,

Dominique Lee
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CEO

Chaleeta Hines
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Interim Chief School Administrator

