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#### Dear Parent and Guardians;

New Paltz School District has been active in the past days determining how to best assist our students and families during the Pandemic of Covid-19. We understand this changing landscape has created significant upheaval in everyone's lives. We are actively working to meet families concerns and the rapidly changing State and Federal requirements.

Per the Governor's most recent Executive Order, our schools will remain closed through April 1st. The District recently designated March 23rd - 27th as "Spring Break." Overarching these official acts is the expectation that school closures will be extended.

In the upcoming days we will be announcing several initiatives to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. A District Remote Learning Plan will begin on March 30th. We will be presenting information specific to each building, as well as, community resources which families may find helpful.

Your building administrators will be guiding teachers and students in this endeavor. Ultimately we all must work together to facilitate student's access to education and connections during unprecedented times of social distancing.

We are gathering information on the needs of our community regarding internet connectivity and the availability of devices at home. Complete this survey ONLY if you have no device (other than a cell phone) and/or no internet connection in your household: <a href="https://forms.gle/e2rvNqJnT2nYpLk7A">https://forms.gle/e2rvNqJnT2nYpLk7A</a>. This form will also be made available to families participating in our food home delivery program.

In the meantime, please look forward to information on your child resuming their access to education in a format that will vary building to building. Similar information is forthcoming for students who receive mandated services through Special Education, Section 504 programming, or school counseling services from social workers and psychologists. This is a particularly troubling time for many of us. We urge families to seek out the resources listed at the end of this letter and those on our website.

In the meantime stay healthy and safe.

More to follow, NPCSD Administrative Team

# Resources

## **Emergency/Fire**

• 911

## Food and Shelter Locally

 Project Resilience – Ulster County residents may apply online for food and other supports ulstercountyny.gov/ProjectResilience
Residentes del Condado de Ulster: Solicitud de asistencia alimentaria ulstercountyny.gov/ProjectResilience

## **Childcare for Emergency Workers/Essential Employees**

• YMCA offers childcare beginning March 23rd at Lenape Elementary ymcaulster.org/emergency-child-care/ OR 845-338-3810 Ext. 110

#### **Crisis Intervention/help lines**

- Ulster County COVID 19 Hotline: 845-443-8888
- NYS Coronavirus Hotline: 888-364-3065
- Family of Woodstock crisis phone line: 845-338-2370 (24 hour availability)
- New York State Crisis text line: Text 741-741 (24 hour availability)
- Textmeback.org: Text and Chat line: 845-679-2485

#### Get Updated Medical Information-choose reliable sources

- Center for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html
- National Institute of Health www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus

## Help discussing COVID-19 with young children

- UNICEF www.unicef.org/coronavirus/how-talk-your-child-about-coronavirus-covid-19
- NASP- Parent handout in Spanish, French, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, English

www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource