



**School Closure Information**  
**K12 Alert from: March 13, 2020**

Dear Croton-Harmon Families,

This morning, I joined more than 50 regional superintendents along with representatives from the New York State Education Department and the New York State Government to discuss the public health concern that the COVID-19 coronavirus poses to our communities and our schools. In this meeting, there was a collective concern for the safety of our students, staff, and our respective communities. We believe that some immediate action is necessary.

In light of these concerns, the Croton-Harmon School District, along with many districts in our region, will be using **two emergency closure days, on Monday, March 16th and Tuesday, March 17th.** This includes all school activities, extra-curricular activities, and athletics. This school closure is consistent with the practice of social distancing, which has been recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and medical professionals. There are many unanswered questions for school districts at this time; both as they relate to the potential for the spread of COVID-19 within our schools, as well as the logistical implications for schools.

My hope is that during this short-term closure we will obtain more concrete guidance from the Governor, State Education Department, and the health departments. Based on the information available on Tuesday, the status of the school closing will be re-evaluated. The health and safety of our students and employees is our utmost priority, and therefore our district is **prepared to extend the closure through March 27.**

All families should prepare for an extended school closure. Starting on Wednesday, March 18, we would provide distance learning for our students, and information would be available at that time on [www.chufsd.org/eLearning](http://www.chufsd.org/eLearning). We are also working to support students who participate in our free and reduced lunch program and will share the necessary information when needed.

We understand the challenges and hardships that this decision may pose to our school families. Please trust that this was not an easy decision for any school district. However, we are at a critical juncture for the greater good of our school community and that of the people of New York.

We remain committed to sharing any further developments as they are available. During this critical time, our continued partnership and care for one another is essential to successfully navigate this challenge.

Should you have any specific questions, concerns, or needs, please email your building principal.

Yours in Mission Possible,

Dr. Deborah O'Connell  
Superintendent of Schools