



Prospect Heights School District 23

March 20, 2020

UPDATED SCHOOL CLOSURE INFORMATION

The Governor has extended school closures through April 7, 2020. All District 23 Schools and Programs will remain **CLOSED** as directed. We continue to recommend that families plan and prepare for an extended closure.

We have been asked to share **[THIS LETTER](#)** that describes the Governor's "Stay-at-Home" Order.

DISTANCE LEARNING UPDATE

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!
Thank you so much to all of our students, parents, and staff for your awesome participation in our Distance Learning Plan. Not only did we have great "attendance", but everyone is really making the **BEST** of this situation.



SPRING BREAK:

In the spirit of "normalcy" we are going to hold to our "Spring Break" week. We all might need some time to disconnect and recharge. We encourage families to unplug and take break from the daily schedule.



All of the Distance Learning Links will remain open during Spring Break, but all District faculty participation and guidance will be suspended. Families may choose to select and complete learning activities but are neither required nor expected. Attendance is **NOT** necessary during our Spring Break window.

Families may click this link for some **[Virtual Spring Break Fun Activities](#)**.

WHEN WE RETURN FROM SPRING BREAK...

While our school closures continue after next week, **we will continue to implement our Distance Learning Plan**. We will update our links and content and ask for students/families to continue to "sign in" for attendance. Again, this is intended to be an opportunity to help students stay engaged and to provide some structure. It is **NOT** intended to add stress or anxiety at home.

MEALS for FAMILIES:

Non-Perishable meals for students have been prepared and were distributed this week. Any family may come to the District

Office during Spring Break to pick up these items between 10:00am - 2:00pm.

If you are in need of any assistance, please call (847) 870-3850 and we will make arrangements to connect with you.



SURVEYS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

We invite students and parents to complete a brief survey so that we can gather feedback on this week's Distance Learning plan. As we have stated a number of times, this is our first attempt at launching this process, so reflecting and evaluating is a very important part of making improvements.

[CLICK THIS LINK for the Student Survey](#)

[CLICK THIS LINK for the Parent Survey](#)



Distance Learning...Brings us together?

When I was a kid, we dreamed of a future when you could SEE the person you were talking to on the phone; to be able to connect with friends in a group, even when you're all in different places; to be able to visit distant places without ever leaving home.

When I first became an educator in 1993, we dreamed of schools that were able to individualize instruction to meet kids needs; that could encourage choice and creativity by students; that would include a well-rounded approach that included arts, physical and social emotional wellness, and applied technologies.

When I first began teaching at National Louis University in 2010, we dreamed of breaking down the walls of schools to expand teaching and learning to the broader world; to enable connections between home and school that would add depth to teaching and learning; to use technology as a tool that can enhance and support teaching and learning.

When we met as a District on Monday to add details to our Distance Learning Plan, the dreams of my past became reality. While certainly not under positive circumstances, I believe that this unprecedented time in our history will have a long term impact of the future of teaching and learning. We know that the importance of high quality instruction, direct support, and face to face interaction can not be replaced by technology, the use of new tools to structure learning experiences are now on display. As educators, we are learning through this process as well!

I am so proud of the work of our administrators and staff in preparing and providing our Distance Learning, our parents and care givers who support and facilitated the learning activities, and our students who have been AMAZING in their flexibility, engagement, collaboration, and active participation in their school work.

We often use phrases like "community of learners" and "student-centered" in education, but this week has been the most outstanding

Upcoming Events



**REGISTRATION for
2020-21 School Year
to begin in APRIL**



**Board of
Education
Meeting**

**April 8, 2020
7:00 pm**

**Links to Virtual
attendance will be
provided ASAP**

Quick Links

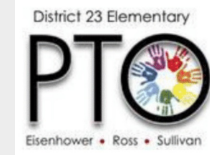


**Visit the D23
website**

demonstration of those principles. I am honored to serve the District 23 Community and will continue to be dedicated to leading with a focus on supporting students and providing a continuity of learning. When new information and decisions are made, we will communicate as soon as possible.

Thank you again to all in our community for your partnership and collaboration during this time.

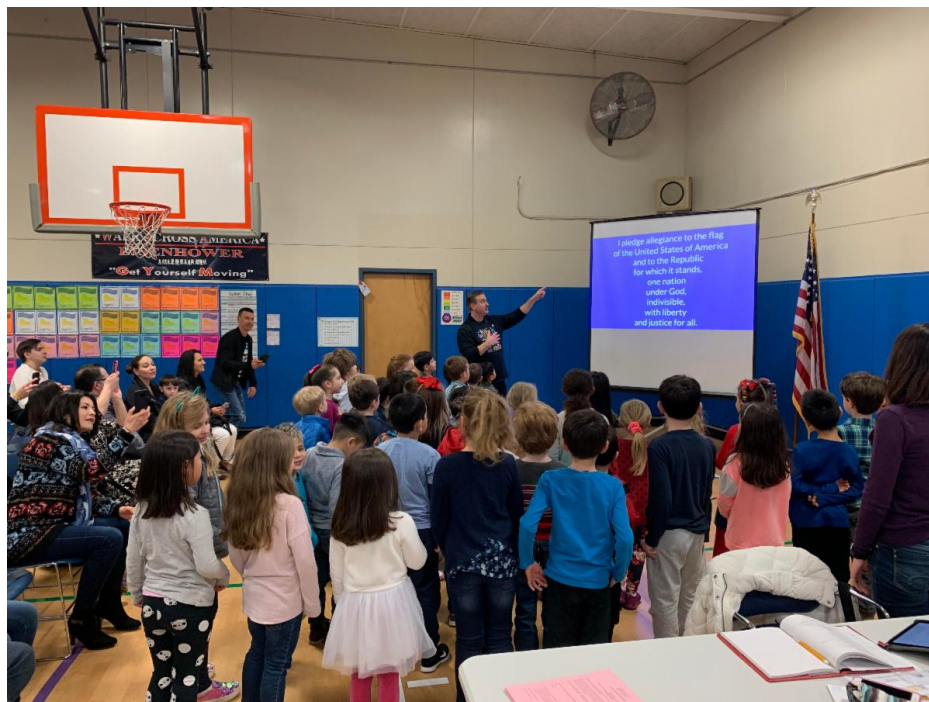
Best wishes,
Dr. A



[Link to: Board of Education Agendas and Meeting Highlights](#) [March 11, 2020](#)

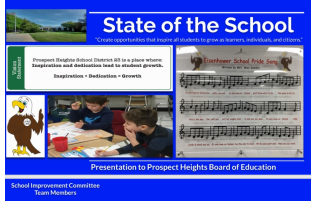
Ike Century Book Club leads the Pledge

Students at Eisenhower who read 100 books are celebrated through the Century Book Club. Representatives from this group lead the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance and also sang the Ike Song to start our meeting.



IKE School Improvement Team Presentation

Once each year, the schools present their School Improvement Plan to the Board of Education. Dr. Lambatos and the SIP team shared their goals and work being done at Ike along with data



demonstrating their improvements and growth.

March Recognitions

Music in our Schools Month

March is recognized as Music in our Schools Month and celebrates the positive impact that music education plays in the lives of our students and community. We extend our appreciation to all of our music educators: Garth Anderson, Karen Luehr, Jonathan Boyer, Megan Murray, and Sam Simpson. We also thank our students and families for their dedication and commitment to our music programs.



National School Social Work Month

March is also recognized as National School Social Work Month and recognizes the important role that these mental health professionals play in the education setting. We extend our appreciation to all of our social workers: Abra Zaveduk, Megan Reiger, Rachel Curran, and Carly Racusen.

Youth Art Month

We recognize the importance and impact of Art instruction in our schools and thank Melinda Lyons (Ike), Rachel Matthews (Ross/Sullivan), and Janet Kyeon (MacArthur) for their dedication and passion.

Middle Level Education Month

We recognize our MacArthur Staff for their commitment to Middle Level Education and thank them for their work to support our learners through this often difficult time in their lives.

Foreign Language Month

Joe Behun and Athena Kalaras (MacArthur) continue to demonstrate professionalism and passion for Spanish Instruction. We thank them for their engaging instruction and introduction to new languages. We are excited for the enhancements being planned for access to foreign language instruction at MacArthur.

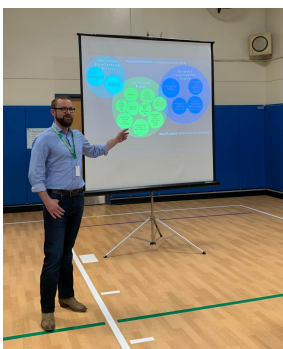
Calendar Adoptions: 2020-21 Updates, 2021-22

Administration presented updates to the 2020-21 School Year calendar and a the 2021-22 calendar. [The Board approved both of these calendars.](#)

[Click here for a PDF of the 2020-21 School Year Calendar](#)

[Click here for a PDF of the 2021-22 School Year Calendar](#)

Summer 2020 Construction Projects Approved



Director of Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Brian Rominski, presented an overview of the Capital Projects planned for Summer 2020. We are excited to bring HVAC improvements to Ross and Sullivan this summer and a replacement of the parking lot at MacArthur and the Sullivan drop of area.

[Click here to view the presentation](#)

Registration for 2020-21 to begin April 8

Given the uncertainty regarding THIS school year, it is a little surreal to announce that we are starting the process of registration for NEXT school year! By the end of next week, currently enrolled families will receive information about how to register for next year. The process will be open starting on April 8.



IT'S ALMOST TIME TO REGISTER FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR!!

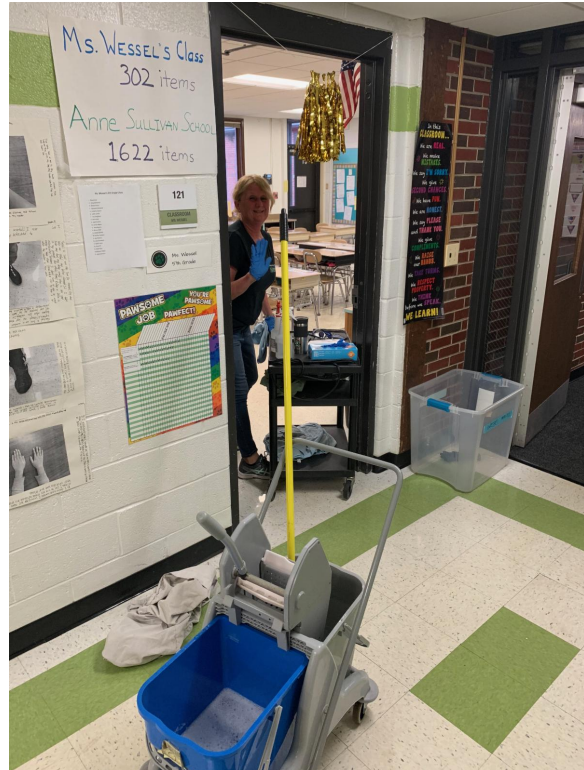
WATCH FOR AN
IMPORTANT LETTER
IN THE MAIL WITH
YOUR CHILD'S
"SNAPCODE" AND THE
LINK TO OUR ONLINE
SYSTEM.



REGISTRATION WILL OPEN ON APRIL 8, 2020



Just a quick shout out to our awesome custodial and maintenance crew! While most of us have been Distance Learning and working from home, these dedicated professionals have been on campus each day to clean, sanitize, and disinfect our entire District! Please join me in thanking them!!



Connect With Us



Administration: (847) 870-3850

[Dr. Don Angelaccio](#)
Superintendent

[Dr. Amy Zaher](#)
Assistant Superintendent

[Mrs. Amy McPartlin](#)
Chief School Business Official



[Dr. Chrys Sroka](#)
Director of Special Education

[Mrs. Maria Stavropoulos](#)
Director of Technology

[Mr. Brian Rominski](#)
Director of Buildings & Grounds