

## Parent Update – May 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At the Dobbs Ferry Board of Education meeting on May 26th, the Board adopted an amended 2019-2020 school year calendar establishing June 17th as the last day of school. This allows the Board to meet our contractual obligations to teachers due to the cancellation of Spring Break. You will note that most school districts in our area have made similar adjustments to their calendars for the end of the school year.

We are working hard on many of the traditional “end-of-the-year” rites of passage including High School graduation and stepping up ceremonies for Springhurst and the Middle School. Of course, all of these traditions will look different this June, but we are doing our best to create new memories that students and families can cherish in the years ahead.

Before the school year comes to a close, it is important for us to gather data and feedback about student, staff, and parent experiences with remote learning. In order to do this, we will be sharing the following surveys:

Panorama Student Distance Learning and Well Being/SEL Survey - grades 4-12

Distance Learning Family Feedback Survey for all parents grades K-12

Students will take the Panorama Survey in their Google Meets during the week of June 1st. Parents will also receive the Family Feedback Survey on June 1st and have until June 10th to complete it. Parents can complete a separate survey for each child that they have in the District or just fill out one survey to capture their overall family experience.

As you can probably imagine, we are already working on organizing a strategic approach for the opening of schools in September. Although we do not have any guidance yet from the New York State Department of Education, we need to begin to plan for a number of possible scenarios. If things hold true to form, we will receive a confluence of confusing directives and last-minute information that we will have to decipher and manage. We plan to work with small subcommittees that will oversee various aspects of school opening, and we will collaborate with our neighboring districts and Southern Westchester school partners. We will, of course, communicate often with parents and guardians as all of this unfolds.

Please be sure to look for the Distance Learning Family Feedback Survey next week! We appreciate your taking the time to tell us about your family's experience.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Brady*  
Superintendent