

## **Coronavirus Update: March 13, 2020**

### **Temporary School Closures March 16th and March 17th**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This morning, more than 50 superintendents met with New York State Officials, a legislative representative, and State Education Department officials 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.

**The Dobbs Ferry School District will be using two emergency closure days to close schools on Monday, March 16th and Tuesday, March 17th.** This school closure will be consistent with the model of social distancing that has been recommended by the CDC and many 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 other logistical implications.

As a region, it is our expectation that we will obtain further guidance and action from New York State related to our questions and concerns during this temporary closure. Based on the information available on Tuesday, the status of the school closing will be re-evaluated. It would be prudent for parents to prepare for extended school closure. Our teachers and staff have been preparing for this scenario over the past week. We will be sharing additional information related to the continuation of Special Education services, meetings and other important considerations as necessary in the event of a long term closure.

We understand the challenges and hardships that these decisions may pose on our school families. Please trust that this is not an easy decision for any school district to make.

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.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Brady*, Ed.D.  
Superintendent