



November 25, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I have no joy in writing this letter to you and I wish we had better news. I appreciated all your feedback and support as we have navigated the evolving challenges over the past two weeks here at the school.

Please be advised, this letter is to inform you that more than one member of the East Mountain School community has tested positive for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID 19). In response, we have been working with our leadership team, including the infectious disease specialists at Hackensack Meridian Health, and the local Department of Health.

As you know, East Mountain School has been on remote education for students through November 30th. As promised, I wanted to provide an update to our plans.

Due to positive results within the school community, the increased number of cases through the State and in coordination with our department of health, **East Mountain School will continue its remote education plan for students through the Winter Break, New Year, and into January 2021.** Our leadership team and Hackensack Meridian Health professionals will advise us when a full or partial opening of the school may occur. Therefore, I am anticipating **further communication to you on or before Friday, January 8th.**

Until that time students should remain in daily contact with their teachers and classroom assignments through our virtual platforms.

Thank you all for your check-ins and communication to your children, encouraging them to participate actively in our remote teaching. You may have noticed too we are implementing more reward components for the children as they complete work on Google Classroom. We believe it is important to validate and celebrate every success our students achieve so we will continue to identify all the good news we are seeing in the children.

Our plan has school staff present on site but also functioning from remote locations in the coming weeks. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us or provide updates on support you need. I will be here at the school. Feel free to leave me a message too if I can help.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and know we miss the students not being in the school buildings. But we will do all we can to teach and assist them in the coming weeks as we await our return to in-person school. Our Main Office phone is 908-281-1415. To contact me directly call 908-281-1445.

Sincerely,
Dr. Stacey Paulis
Director/Principal

Hackensack Meridian Carrier Clinic

East Mountain School

Stacey Paulis, Ed. D.
Director/Principal

Michael Haney, MA, QPA
Business Administrator

Stephen Bender, Ph.D, D.D.
Supervisor

Angela DiDolce, MSW, LCSW, ND
Supervisor

David Seidorf, M. Ed
Supervisor