

## Neshannock Township School District

A Commitment to Excellence

3834 Mitchell Road New Castle, Pennsylvania 16105 724-658-4793 Dr. Terence P. Meehan Superintendent

Mr. Justin DiMuccio
Business Manager

Dear Lancer Community,

I hope this finds you all safe as we cope with the quarantine and social distancing. As you know, all schools in Pennsylvania remain closed indefinitely. As we have moved through this situation, we have been following the directives of the Department of Education. Although it can be frustrating, it is a reality that we must accept while we work together through the challenges in front of us.

I applaud all of the families for their response to our initial survey. This provided us a great deal of data to ensure that all students were able to have the access and resources needed for a virtual learning environment. I am pleased to report that during our first week of off campus instruction, attendance was nearly at 100 percent in most grade levels. Our communication to families and students will remain on our website, which we update regularly. We have also established a phone line for response to those in need of technical support. The number is 724 901-1906. Teachers are available daily from 9:00-3:00 and will respond via email to any student or parent academic questions.

We are working on a procedure to retrieve student belongings from the school. This will take great planning and organizing. We will communicate plans for this once we have established a process that maintains the safety of our staff and families. At the current time, access to the schools is not permitted. If there is something of significant and immediate need for the academic program, please notify your building principals through email; and we will try to retrieve the item for you.

Your third quarter report cards will be accessed online through Edustar. The details for accessing the report cards will be posted on the District website along with each of the school pages once the grades are finalized. You may contact the school tech support if you need help with this procedure (724 901-1906). The online assignments will be counted toward fourth quarter grades. Teachers are taking into consideration the barriers that some students may face and have been lenient on deadlines; however, the assignments do need to be completed for each course. We will post a procedure on grades, teachers and administrators are working on this to ensure that we account for all situations. Daily attendance is also important. Students must sign onto the attendance system set forth at each grade level. This has gone very well. Please continue to make certain that students do sign-in for each school day. Attendance is being recorded into our system as each day of virtual learning counts toward the school year.

Our High School Principal, Mr. Passarelli, has been communicating issues related to seniors through their district email. We are adjusting plans as necessary and will work very hard to provide our seniors with some type of proper recognition once we are permitted to do so. In the meantime, please continue to watch for email updates from Mr. Passarelli.

We are anxious to help in any way. Please use email <a href="mailto:support@ntsd.org">support@ntsd.org</a> or call 724 901-1906 to report any technical issues. Academic questions should be directed to the teachers via email. Please check our website <a href="www.ntsd.org">www.ntsd.org</a> regularly. Your patience and understanding during this challenging time is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Terence P Meehan