



Staff utilizing ZOOM this past week

ESCNJ Schools and Programs will be closed until the Closure Orders are rescinded by Gov. Murphy.

Hello Parents and Students!

The first week of home schooling officially ended on Friday, and we hope everyone is doing well.

We realize these are very difficult times for everyone, with plenty of adjustments. For many, taking on the responsibility of remote learning globally is a difficult task. **The health and wellness of you and your family is always the top priority.**

Your ESCNJ family will be sending out weekly updates to keep you informed of everything that is going on with our staff, parents and students. We are all going through this moment together. And we are here for one another.

We are in continuous communication with parents, providing whatever support we can from remote locations.

In addition, teachers, one-on-one aides, and case managers have been in contact with parents to discuss any issues related to behavior or academic instruction.

District IEP meetings continue to be held via phone conference with staff, district representative and parents.

Teachers have emailed additional work and resources to parents to help them with implementing meaningful, structured activities at home.

This past week, many of us have been communicating via ZOOM (remote conferencing service that combines video conferencing, online meetings, chat, and mobile collaboration), which allows parents and students to see and communicate with staff. We know many of our teachers miss their students; it is great for

them to interact over the computer and help ensure students are doing ok during such a disruptive period in the school year.

We look forward to sharing with you some "Best Practices" and hope they can be emulated district-wide.

Here is an example of a teacher from BBLC who used YouTube to communicate with her students, <https://www.youtube.com/user/MsJaemills>. The teachers and staff are working to be as creative as possible in making this transition as smooth as possible.

Another suggestion we received from a parent at FFA is for students to work on their functional life skills at home, such as doing laundry or setting the table.

Please note, if your child receives free or reduced-price lunch at school, be sure to contact your child's teachers regarding information about receiving meals from your sending school district.

One last thing, if possible please send us pictures of your children doing school work, tasks or chores at home. The photos are an inspiration for all of us! Some photos will appear on social media and our weekly communications.

Follow us on Facebook/The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, Twitter/ESCoNJ and Instagram/ESCoNJ. For all the latest information, please visit our website at www.ESCNJ.com

Thank you and be well,

Mark Finkelstein,
Superintendent

