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Dr. Frank Ranelli
Superintendent of Schools

March 25, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff:

As we make our way through our second week of remote learning, I wanted to thank everyone for their patience, understanding, and most importantly, for quickly adapting to this new way of thinking and learning. I appreciate the assistance we have received from the community to date while we build our plans for extending and improving remote learning.

I wanted to inform you of Governor Murphy's statement cancelling state-wide assessments for the 2019-2020 school year. This means our teachers and students will be released from test preparation and can focus on curriculum only:

Given the continued threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) to our school communities and the resulting school closures, Governor Phil Murphy today announced that the State of New Jersey is cancelling all statewide student assessments for the spring 2020 testing window. This includes the springtime administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA), ACCESS for ELLs, and the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment.

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) has notified states that it will grant a waiver to any state that is unable to assess its students due to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing relief from federally mandated testing, accountability, and reporting requirements for this school year.

Additionally, changes have been made to the administration of the AP exam. Students enrolled in AP classes at Piscataway High School have been directly notified from PHS Administration about these changes.

I will continue to regularly update you to all changes, modifications, and even celebrations for student learning. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your principals, or to me, with any questions, or for assistance as we navigate this new normal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Frank Ranelli