Averill Park High School

Averill Park Central School District 146 Gettle Road Averill Park, NY 12018 Phone: (518) 674-7000

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Principal
Mr. Heath C. Quiles
Assistant Principals
Ms. Rebecca Leach
Mrs. Christina Mein
Athletic Director
Mr. Mark Bubniak

March 31, 2020

Students, Parents and Guardians, welcome to the month of April!

I don't think that any of us would have imagined a few short weeks ago that our world would look like it does today. There is no question that everything has changed.

Over the past few weeks, we have seen the tremendous strength of our school community in so many amazing ways. Our students and families, and faculty and staff, have come together to make the best of a very challenging, and unique situation. This is something to be proud of.

As we move into the next couple of weeks, you will note that we have used your feedback to make some adjustments to our plan for instructional delivery. Hopefully, these adjustments will make this all just a bit more sustainable. I know that families and staff have been working 24/7 to try to stay on top of it all, and it's important that we try to maintain balance, routine, and self-care through these unprecedented times.

Our faculty will be sending out materials to students only during normal school hours. We have asked that they work together to stagger their assignments, and that they only offer live sessions during the times that they would normally see students in our traditional A-Day/B-Day Schedule. These live sessions are optional, and encouraged, but we are also building the capacity to ensure that they are recorded, so that students may watch them when they are able. We are encouraging learning opportunities which are flexible and longer-term in nature, as well. In the end, we understand that families are balancing a great deal right now, and we want our continuity in learning to be as manageable as possible. Here is a link to our online learning website, where you should be able to find all materials needed from each of our teachers: https://sites.google.com/apcsd.org/onlinelearning/grade-level-department-resources#h.ce1p3o7z9dyc

As you learned last Friday, for the 3rd Quarter students will not receive a number grade. Students will receive a P or F, with a comment indicating the grade range which they had in each course at the time of closure (March 16th). As we learn more about the extent of our closure, and get more guidance from NYSED, we will be able to better assess what may happen in the 4th Quarter, and beyond. Please note that NYSED has indicated that it will be providing information about its plans related to June 2020 Regents exams at some point this week. We will keep you in the loop on all of these topics, as we learn more.

Finally, please know that we are in this together. If there is anything that you need, please never hesitate to reach out! I wish all of our students, families, faculty and staff a safe and healthy week!

Heath C. Quiles Principal Averill Park High School

Important Information Regarding Social Distancing

Although it is important to get outside and get some fresh air and exercise, remember that any and all contact sports, and gatherings in groups of any size, cannot take place during these difficult times.

We have been informed that the town parks and playgrounds are closed to gatherings until further notice. It is really important that each and everyone of us maintains social distancing; we all need to do our part with this to keep our community safe & healthy.

We recognize that this is frustrating for you, our students, and that you miss seeing and gathering with your friends, but it's what you need to do during this difficult time. Please do your part to help keep our community, your family and yourself safe by following social distancing. Parents, we thank you for your help with reinforcing the importance of social distancing with your children at home.

Important Information Regarding Working Papers

If a student is in need of working papers at any point during our closure, please download the application materials off the APCSD website at: https://averillpark.k12.ny.us/working-papers

Once completed, call the nurse's office at WSL (518-674-7184) to verify if your child's physical is up to date. If the physical is up to date, you will be prompted to schedule a time with the Nurse on Duty from 7 am to noon to have the AT-16 Physical Fitness Form signed. This step may also be completed directly with your physician, as well.

When all signatures and forms are completed, please email your completed documents to heilmannj@apcsd.org and request to set up a videoconference to present and verify identification materials. Once the video conference is completed, your working papers will be mailed to you.

If you have any questions, or need assistance with any part of this process, please contact the HS Counseling Center at 674-7025.

News for Students

We encourage you to continue to remain connected. There are several ways that you can accomplish this:

- Students, please check your APCSD email daily. Your teachers, counselors and administrators will be using this as the primary means for communicating with you! Teachers will be sharing with you their daily "office hours" that they will be available to you. Take advantage of this time with your teachers to stay connected.
- Speaking of staying connected, **students**, to stay connected with us, the APHS Leadership Team, by joining our Google Classroom "Averill Park High School Administration Connections". All you need to join is the following code: whh5oj2 Many of you have already joined, our goal is to have ALL of you join to stay connected with us. We have received some questions from parents about being able to join as well. Please note due to privacy regulations, this Google Classroom is only open to students. Parents, we encourage you to review the Google Classroom with your student(s) to see what Mr. Quiles, Mrs. Mein and Mrs. Leach have posted.
- For students looking to get some SAT, ACT & AP Prep in, Kaplan is offering free SAT, ACT and AP Prep online resources. Just click Free Kaplan resources to find out more.
- For those students that like to write and/or are interested in civics, Mrs. Yost has found an essay contest that is being sponsored by Scholastic and is titled, "What will you run for?" This civics and persuasive writing essay contest is for students in grades 7-12. For more information <u>click here</u>.

News for Parents & Guardians

Please help support your child(ren) with their virtual learning by monitoring if they have connected with each of their teachers. By now all students should have logged onto their device and should have connected with their teachers. The Student Support Team (SST) is working collaboratively to monitor student connectivity and will be in touch this week with those folks that have net connected.

You can also work with your child(ren) to set up a daily schedule, following the <u>A/B day schedule</u>. This week's schedule is as follows:

Monday 3/30=B-day; Tuesday, 3/31=A-day; Wednesday, 4/1=B-day; Thursday=A-day; Friday=B-day

Food Service Update

NOTICE: As of Wednesday (April 1) meals will be available only at the high school from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Algonquin Middle School and Miller Hill-Sand Lake Elementary will no longer serve as distribution locations. As usual, please remain in your car and meals will be brought to you. We are asking everyone who is coming to the high school for meal pickups to use the entrance near Butler Park and exit by High School Road, as shown in the diagram that Dr. Franchini sent out, click on this link for more information: https://www.averillpark.k12.ny.us/news-archive-2019-2020/4094-update-to-food-pickup-location.

Having Technology Issues?

Please contact your Class Principal if you are having difficulties accessing your online learning opportunities, we are here to help. There is also a link on the district website in the Online Resources section: https://sites.google.com/apcsd.org/onlinelearning/home

Spectrum is offering <u>free internet to households with students</u> for 60 days due to school closings. Go to www.spectrum.com for more information.

From our Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Yost, you can obtain reading material using **Sora**: https://soraapp.com/home Contact Mrs. Yost at yostj@apcsd.org if you have any questions about using Sora. You can find more information on Sora and so much more by clicking on the APHS Library Media Center button located on the district's website: https://averillpark.k12.ny.us/averill-park-high-school-library

The District's technology team has put together an Online Learning page for students, parents and teachers. Check it out at https://sites.google.com/apcsd.org/onlinelearning/home

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if there is anything you need. This can be done via email, or by calling the high school at 674-7002. This line will be monitored daily, and you will receive a call back within one business day.

Our emails are as follows:

Mr. Ouiles (High School Principal)- quilesh@apcsd.org

Mrs. Mein (Assistant Principal, Grades 9 and 11)- meinc@apcsd.org

Mrs. Leach (Assistant Principal Grades 10 and 12)- leachr@apcsd.org

Stay safe and stay well!

Mr. Quiles, Mrs. Mein & Mrs. Leach

Public Notification:

The Averill Park Central School District's Board of Education, its officers and employees shall not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race, gender, genetic predisposition, carrier status, sexual orientation in its educational programs, services or activities. A complete copy of the grievance procedures regarding discrimination may be obtained in any of the school offices. Kimberly Nugent, Compliance Officer

District Office 146 Gettle Road, ST1 Averill Park, NY 12018

In compliance with Section 504 (of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) Averill Park offers assistance to students, parents (for school related purposes pertaining to their child) and staff qualifying as having a disabling condition as defined under Section 504.

For further information or to make a referral for such assistance, you may contact: Kathryn Dorgan, Section 504 Coordinator District Office 146 Gettle Road, ST1 Averill Park, NY 12018