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May 8, 2020

Dear Northfield Families,

 It came as no surprise when, earlier this week, Governor Murphy made the announcement to close schools to in-person instruction and to continue with remote instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. While the decision was made in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of our students, staff, and community it nonetheless saddens us that we will not be able to celebrate the end of year activities, such as 8th grade graduation, in the same manner that we have come to enjoy and love. However, with this reality before us, we can now start executing plans to make the most out of our current situation.

 Governor Murphy shared that in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Education, guidance on permissible graduation celebrations will be forthcoming. In the meantime, the administration is working with the staff and the Board of Education to develop plans and coordinate logistics regarding graduation, student awards, collection of school assets (i.e. books, Chromebooks, etc.), and the return of students’ personal items left in the schools. We understand that many are eager to find out what all of this will look like, but we appreciate your patience as we coordinate all of the intricacies associated with ensuring that all of these events occur in the safest and most memorable manner that we are able to provide.

 In closing, I want to encourage everyone to come together now more than ever so that we can finish the year on a strong and positive note. I am confident and proud that Northfield is ahead of the curve by virtue of being able to “hit the ground running” with remote learning since the inception of the closure. However, I also recognize that there is a fatigue factor. So to finish strong, I ask that you continue to make sure your children are checking their school email every day and remind them to submit their work every day by pressing the “turn in” button. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions and remember to continue to wear a mask if you must visit the school.

Respectfully,



Pedro P. Bretones

Superintendent of Schools