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May 15, 2020

Dear Northfield Families,

 I hope this update finds everyone healthy and safe. For anyone who has been following along on the guidance regarding celebratory gatherings for graduations from Governor Murphy and the New Jersey Department of Education, I am sorry. Within the last week that guidance has ranged from a prohibition of celebratory gatherings (which is why we issued our joint statement earlier this week) to clarification as to the intended guidance that did nothing of the sort, to a final interpretation that “drive by” gatherings might be permissible. At the moment we are being told that a “final final” (no that is not a typo) decision will be available sometime next week. I share any frustration you may be feeling as we try to formulate any final plans on a moving target. We will be sharing details on how we will be celebrating the 8th grade class as soon as we are able to do so, but rest assured that we will go above and beyond to make it special and memorable for you and your children.

 I do want to remind everyone to please check your children’s grades in OnCourse. The marking period is almost half over and it is a good time to see how your child is progressing. I also want to let everyone know that we will be sharing the 4th marking period and final grading details very soon. I know you are anxious to receive this information, but we are working very hard to provide a system that is fair and informative so I thank you for your patience.

 In closing, I would like to invite everyone to drive by our school to see the signs celebrating our graduating 8th grade students on the New Road side of the building. This was offered by parents in our community as a recognition of the 8th graders who are graduating this year. In this time of turmoil, I sincerely hope that our 8th grade students and all of us recognize how a community comes together to recognize and celebrate their accomplishments. Thank you to the families that provided that for us. You know who you are.

Respectfully,



Pedro P. Bretones

Superintendent of Schools