



HUDSON COUNTY SCHOOLS OF TECHNOLOGY

COVID-19 Educational Planning: Thursday, March 12, 2020

March 9, 2020

Dear HCST Faculty and Staff:

The Hudson County Schools of Technology continues to closely monitor the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. This weekend, the first case of Coronavirus was reported in Hudson County. **While this individual, a 32-year-old man has made NO known direct contact with anyone within the HCST community**, our district continues to take all precautionary measures to prevent the spread of this virus.

Be mindful - if you exhibit any signs of illness, remain home from work/school.

Over the coming days, our district's Emergency Management Team will continue to meet with our state, county and local partners to ensure minimal interruption to our academic curriculum and educational programming. Our operational staff has been working around the clock to keep our facilities and buses clean and surfaces thoroughly disinfected at all times.

The New Jersey Department of Education's guidance emphasizes that the most important thing for schools to do now is ***plan and prepare***. Among other planning procedures, the guidance advises that "schools may be asked to close preemptively or reactively, therefore schools should be making plans for what to do if there are recommendations for [health-related] closing schools or cancelling events."

Our district is in the process of developing a *school health-related closure preparedness plan* to provide home instruction in the event of such a closure. To support you in creating an effective preparedness plan for each academic discipline and CTE vocation, our district daytime programs will operate on an Early STUDENT Dismissal **Thursday, March 12, 2020**. Following student dismissal, you will meet with your school's administration and planning teams to address the provision of online learning in the event of a health-related school closure. Please plan your schedule for **Thursday, March 12th** to remain working **until 5 p.m** should planning take longer than expected. We appreciate your cooperation during this time.

Below, please find links to resources from The Hudson Regional Health Commission, New Jersey Department of Health, as well as the United States Department of Health & Human Services - Center for Disease Control for your information. Please share the information with your students and always promote best sanitary practices as recommended by the Department of Health. These links have been sent home to each student's parent/guardian:

Hudson Regional Health Commission: <https://www.hudsonregional.org/coronavirus>

NJ Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

US Department of Health – CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

There is no immediate threat to our district, please rest assured we will continue to monitor the situation. The district office will keep you up to date on any new information should it arise. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Lin-Rodriguez".

Amy Lin-Rodriguez, Superintendent

Telephone (201) 662-6700 ▪ One High Tech Way ▪ Secaucus, NJ 07094

Mission Statement

The Hudson County Schools of Technology is a visionary community that inspires creative independent thinking through diverse learning opportunities

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE HUDSON COUNTY SCHOOLS OF TECHNOLOGY NOT TO DISCRIMINATE IN EMPLOYMENT OR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AGAINST ANY PERSON BY REASON OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, AGE, SEX, AFFECTIONAL OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MARITAL STATUS, LIABILITY FOR SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, OR ATYPICAL HEREDITARY CELLULAR OR BLOOD TRAIT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL, IN EMPLOYMENT OR IN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. FURTHER STATE AND FEDERAL PROTECTION IS EXTENDED ON ACCOUNT OF DISABILITIES, SOCIAL OR ECONOMIC STATUS, PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, PREGNANCY RELATED DISABILITIES, ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL PARENTHOOD, OR FAMILY STATUS." Inquiries regarding affirmative action, discrimination (including Title IX requirements), sexual harassment or equity should be directed to: Alicia Abraham, Affirmative Action Officer/504 Officer/Title IX Coordinator, Hudson County Schools of Technology, Earl W. Byrd Center, Explore Middle School, Frank J. Gargiulo Campus, One High Tech Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094, 201-662-6724 or Email: aabraham@hctsonline.org