



## Office of the Superintendent COVID19 School Closure Update 06-07-20

June 7, 2020

Dear HCST Families:

Thank you to our entire community for keeping the support going strong for our students, staff, faculty and administration. These are not easy times, but together, we will culminate our school year well.

### Health Advisory

The National Association of School Nurses has informed us of increasing numbers in children with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Childhood (MIS-C) that have been diagnosed with COVID as well as those that have been exposed and tested positive for antibodies. MIS-C has been seen in children as well as young adults. The reported cases in NJ are increasing and it seems to be affecting more young adults than small children. The NJ Department of Health (NJDOH) believes it is a hyper immune response to the virus, but if not caught early and treated, it can cause permanent heart or kidney damage. It could also be fatal. Linked here is the [Parent Fact Sheet provided by the NJDOH](#). The information is also posted on our up-to-date [HCST's COVID-19 site](#).

### Together, We Are #HCSTstrong

This week each school reminded our students that HCST is always a safe haven for support - with the direct link to each school's student services, as below:

In light of the recent unrest in our country, we want you to know we are here for you. We recognize, together, these are unsettling times disrupted by pandemic health-related conditions, social and racial injustices, political unrest and economic instability.

However, we want to remind you that as one district, we stand **HCST strong!**

These are teachable moments for us all... we remain committed to supporting opportunities for learning and expression, for understanding and inclusion. Our school counselors are available to all students, to express their thoughts or to communicate whatever else they may be feeling in these turbulent times.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to your [school counselor or child study team](#).

### Input Needed: Parental Survey from NJ Department of Education

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, the New Jersey Department of Education (Office of Civic and Social Engagement) has requested each parent to complete a state-level survey for school re-openings. Your feedback is important for this process. In case you missed it in your inbox, please click for [NJDOE Survey to HCST Parents](#)

**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@hcastonline.org](mailto:aabraham@hcastonline.org)

## Important June Dates

Last Day of School - June 19<sup>th</sup>

### Virtual Graduation Ceremonies

Explore Middle School – June 19<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm

High Tech High School – June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10am

County Prep High School/ATD – June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm

\*Specific Class of 2020 in-person celebration and other pertinent information will be sent via email per specific school.

## Last Day for Digitally Honoring the Class of 2020

**Today is the last day of our district-wide campaign... submit your personal well wishes!**

Click on the links below:

**HCST High Schools**

[Adult High School](#)

[County Prep High School/ATD](#)

[High Tech High School](#)

**HCST Middle School**

[Explore Middle School](#)

\*Submission links will be deactivated at midnight!

## Reminders:

### Share your Good News!

For the past three months we have been in a virtual environment, but that hasn't stopped our students from receiving accolades for their talents and abilities! Please continue to share your good news with us.

If you want your story told, please email submissions to our public relations facilitators:

Francis O'Keefe [fokeefe@hcstonline.org](mailto:fokeefe@hcstonline.org) cc Daniel Masoud [dmasoud@hcstonline.org](mailto:dmasoud@hcstonline.org)

### Remain Connected

Visit for the [Virtual Learning Resources & Support](#) page. There, you will find Educational Remediation Resources, PowerSchool and Tech Support guidance.

### Tech Support

If you need help with your school-issued device please submit a [TECH REQUEST!](#)

On-site Tech Support will schedule an appointment with you:

**Tuesdays:** Frank J. Gargiulo Campus 9:00am - 1:30pm; **Thursdays:** Earl W. Byrd Center 9:00am - 1:30pm

Warm Regards,



Superintendent

The HCST district-level and approved social media platforms are Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: [@hcstonline](#)

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**Continue to raise HCST School Spirit** and demonstrate that though *we may be physically apart during this difficult time, we are not alone*: upload your photo or video: [School Spirit Submission Form](#)

We missed many of our in-person celebrations and events this year... the CPHS Music and Audio Technology Department wanted to share this memory with you: [Summer Fest](#)

Sneak peek before we release the news in our upcoming *HCST Connections*... Congratulations to our student artists for sharing their talented work in this year's [35<sup>th</sup> Annual Hudson County Teen Arts Awards](#).