



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
DEAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
201 ROSELD AVENUE, DEAL, NEW JERSEY 07723-1098**

We will be dedicated to fostering positivity and respect, a collaborative learning community, and a growth mindset in learning

DONATO J. SAPONARO, JR.
Superintendent

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March 14, 2020

Deal School Community,

As we continue to monitor the ongoing health crisis concerning the COVID-19 Virus and its spread throughout the state of New Jersey, we have entered uncharted territory as school districts around the state begin closing to help mitigate the further spread of the virus. As the Superintendent of the Deal School, my biggest responsibility to our community is maintaining the safety and security of my students and staff. Whereas we have no confirmed cases of the virus in our community or any known direct contacts at this time, we will be taking proactive steps to limit exposure to the virus for our students and staff.

On Monday, March 16, 2020, the Deal School will follow an abbreviated day schedule with a 12:30 dismissal for students. As of Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the Deal School will be closed to onsite instruction and will begin to implement our offsite [Digital E-Learning Plan](#). At this time, we will remain closed for two weeks with an anticipated return to school on Monday, March 30 2020. However, I would encourage you to make plans for possible closure beyond the two weeks as I anticipate this could carry out through our scheduled spring break in April. This is a very fluid situation with changes in information occurring daily.

Whereas nothing is better or can fully replace the direct interaction and personal instruction that takes place daily between students and teachers at the Deal School, I assure you that we have been preparing for this moment. I am confident that our [Digital E-Learning Plan](#) and the lessons and activities that our teachers will put in place daily will continue the necessary growth and progress of our young learners. I would encourage you to take time to review the [Digital E-Learning Plan](#) as it contains details as how the plan will be carried out. It also contains suggestions for parents on how you can help make this plan successful through your structure and expectations at home. Daily instructional schedules will be sent home on Monday and posted on the website as they have been updated. A copy of the plan may also be found on the Deal School website at <http://www.dealschool.org>. Please make sure that you have joined any Remind, Dojo, Seesaw or email groups that your child's teachers may have invited you into so that the lines of communication are open.

I realize this is a very difficult time for all stakeholders and this will be a big adjustment for all of our students. Please know that our teachers and administration will be online and available to answer questions and assist in any way needed during the scheduled hours and beyond. You may also call the Deal School main office during the morning hours as the administration will be in the building regularly.

Thank you for your support and understanding!

Donato Saponaro
Superintendent