

# Shrewsbury Borough School

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SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

In welcoming you back from Spring Break, I hope that you and your family are healthy, recharged, and surviving the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to grip our world. As I took some time to reflect on the massive changes that we have all made in our newly quarantined lives, I thank you for your incredible support, your patience, and your enduring partnership with all of our teachers and staff. I continue to receive very encouraging and highly positive feedback from our parent community about the amazing work that all of our teachers are doing to help our students and families. Our top-notch professionals have continued to learn new skills, utilize new technology products, and focus on the most effective ways to keep learning engaging and meaningful at home. Our SBS Faculty and Staff have truly risen to this challenge and I am in awe of their positivity and dedication while juggling the demands of their own families and providing structure and continuity for our school community.

As many of you may know, Governor Murphy recently announced that he will have further information about the possibility of schools throughout the state reopening on May 15th. I am hopeful that we will receive specific guidance on how we can begin the process of returning students and employees to SBS and rebuilding our school day and routine. I know that returning things to normal is first and foremost on many peoples' minds. Please know that I will share any information that I receive about those timelines as soon as I receive them. I look forward to letting everyone know how this current closure will affect our important end of year events as soon as we have more guidance and information about what measures school will have to take to keep our students and staff safe after the pandemic.

- If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of virtual, home instruction, I encourage you to contact your child's teacher. Our entire faculty is ready to assist you and to address any of the issues that you may be encountering at home. I also hope that you will take the opportunity to let our amazing teachers know how much you appreciate the impact that they are having in your child's life!

- Miss Shaheen, our SBS Counselor, is also available to you should you need some assistance with the many wellness challenges that our school closure has created for students and families. Please see her website and the school website for resources.
- There are currently no major changes to student grading and assessment for Marking Period 4, but our teachers have adjusted many of their assignments and assessment to account for the difficult nature of the extended closure. We continue to focus on how we can encourage and engage students given the circumstances and our goal will be to provide accurate, meaningful feedback to students and parents based on student performance.
- The district has purchased two hospital-quality UV Obelisks that will be used to sterilize classrooms after they have been cleaned to provide an additional layer of disinfection. SBS has also been able to order four electrostatic spray disinfection systems that we will use as part of our daily cleaning routines around the building. We are confident that this new equipment will augment the thorough cleaning routines utilized daily.
- I am still hoping to have student volunteers submit video recordings of the Pledge of Allegiance and the SBS PeaceBuilder Pledge for daily publication. As of today, I only have had one response! Come on, Tigers! Please follow this link, [Pledge of Allegiance & SBS PeaceBuilder Pledge](#), to sign up and to upload your video. These student videos will be published to Twitter, Facebook, and our new SBS Youtube Channel. I will also send these videos to our teachers to post in their Google Classrooms each day. You can find a copy of the SBS PeaceBuilder Pledge on our website or by following this link: [SBS PeaceBuilder Pledge](#).
- As always, please visit the SBS website for important health information about the COVID-19 pandemic from the CDC, NJDOH, and the Monmouth County Health Commission #1. You can also contact Mrs. Hillen, our School Nurse, who has been seeking out resources for students, parents, and staff.
- Although SBS has had to cancel our school field trips, annual events, and student activities for the year, I want you to know that the SBS Drama Club and members of the spring musical, "The Music Man Jr." have found new ways to bring the arts to our school community. The show must go on! Please enjoy: [Music Man, Jr. Duet](#)

Stay healthy and stay well, Tigers! We got this!!

Very sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell  
Superintendent