

# Shrewsbury Borough School

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Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

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SUPERINTENDENT

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Good afternoon! I hope you and your family are enjoying a wonderful weekend outside in this amazing weather that has finally arrived! We continue to adapt our virtual, home instruction to engage our students and we will continue to do so as we understand that education at home becomes more challenging as we close in on the end of school. Your partnership and assistance at home through undeniably trying times has been remarkable and our faculty appreciates your commitment. Please continue to be in close communication with your child's teachers and let them know when you need assistance. Our faculty and staff remains ready to provide meaningful but reasonable instruction for our students and to guide them to a much needed summer vacation.

Governor Murphy has recently announced that he will have information soon about how schools can prepare for September. At this point, it isn't clear whether he will announce guidelines for students to return to school physically or if schools will start the new school year virtually. As soon as I have any information about what we can expect, I will let everyone in our school community know what we will do here at SBS.

- SBS has solidified plans for our virtual graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020. Recent guidance from the NJDOE does permit live, in-person graduation ceremonies but they recommend virtual ceremonies as the safest alternative. We continue to work very hard behind the scenes to make our ceremony one that honors all of our Class of 2020 graduates and that they will remember for the rest of their lives.
- Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Buskey, our SBS Student Council Advisors, are working on a Virtual Field Day for all of our students. More information is forthcoming on how students and families can participate and we will devote a school day to our Virtual Field Day just as we traditionally would each June.
- Our 8th Grade Team is planning a virtual Washington, DC Trip for our 8th Grade. While this is certainly no replacement for our annual class trip and important tradition, the 8th Grade Teachers will do their best to tour the important sites that we see annually and hopefully give our students a great introduction to Washington, DC for any future trips that they may want to take to Our Nation's Capital.

- We are also working closely with the Shrewsbury First Aid Squad to continue our 45 year tradition of training every graduate of SBS in CPR and other basic life support or BLS. 8th Graders will complete virtual CPR/BLS training and then make appointments to take the in-person training and qualifications over the summer. SBS will also delay awarding the Tom & Betty Clark Award which is given annually until students have completed CPR training.
- We are still working on our process to return student items to students. We will also have more information on a process to collect instructional materials. More information to come soon.
- I am still accepting student videos for the Pledge of Allegiance and the PeaceBuilder Pledge! I want to encourage everyone to submit videos of the Pledge of Allegiance and the SBS PeaceBuilder Pledge for daily publication. Please use 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](#).
- If students have other videos of Shrewsbury, SBS, or anything else that they would like to share, I will be happy to post them to our SBS YouTube channel for the school community as well.
- 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. I have also included several important resources that will also be posted on our website.
- If you think that your child may need to speak with a counselor or if you need further resources to help your family through this time, please feel free to contact our professional counseling staff:
  - Ms. Kathleen Fitzpatrick, School Psychologist - 1.732.747.0882, extension # 119 or [fitzpatrickk@sbs-nj.org](mailto:fitzpatrickk@sbs-nj.org)
  - Mrs. Kristina Kiely, School Social Worker - 1.732.747.0882, extension #118 or [kielyk@sbs-nj.org](mailto:kielyk@sbs-nj.org)
  - Ms. Marisa Shaheen, School Counselor - 1.732.747.0882, extension #309 or [shaheenm@sbs-nj.org](mailto:shaheenm@sbs-nj.org)

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

Very sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell  
Superintendent