

April 24, 2020

Dear Families,

As you know, Thomas Edison has been carefully monitoring all the guidance from federal, state and local officials. In today's press conference, Governor Carney announced that schools in our state will not reopen for in person learning this school year. The Governor's stay-at-home order remains in place as do federal guidelines around social distancing. Below is a statement from Dr. Susan Bunting, Delaware's Secretary of Education:

Today the Governor announced that students will not be returning to school on May 18th as originally hoped. Due to the continuing COVID health crisis, school buildings will remain closed through the end of this school year. Students will continue to engage in remote learning following their own district- and charter-designed plans, which include individual closing dates for the '19-'20 school year.

The Delaware Department of Education will convene a team of stakeholders to collaboratively plan for the remainder of this school year, assess transition, and then continue to adjust and transform practices for the return to school for the '20-'21 school year once public health officials determine it is safe to return.

We know that not reopening schools this year may be upsetting and difficult for many families. We believe however, that our remote learning plan is working well and that it will provide students with the resources they need. While we know that this is not the perfect situation, we are hopeful that working together as a community, our students will make it through this time stronger and with the knowledge that they need to move forward in their academic career.

We continue to focus on finishing up this school year strong, while we also turn our attention to what summer and next fall plans could look like. We encourage you to think long-term as well. As always, we want to make sure that our families have the resources that they need. Here are some that may assist you:

- There are many sites across our community set up to provide school-aged children with breakfast and lunch. The site list gets updated regularly. You can find the sites listed on the Delaware Department of Education website here: <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/page/4149>
- We have digital resources available on our website (<http://thomasedison.charter.k12.de.us/>) that we encourage you and your child to use while school is closed.
- Attached is a document that has resources for parents and families that will be especially useful during this time.
- To help our families during this time, we loaned out devices for our remote learning. If you are still in need of a device, please contact your child's teacher or email us at info@tecs.k12.de.us. As well, if you need information about how to access internet services during this time, you can contact us, or you can find information here: https://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/599#internet_resources.
- We encourage you to continue to remain informed about the situation by regularly checking updates from the [Delaware.gov COVID 19](#) page and the [CDC website](#) for information about COVID-19.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. We will continue to communicate regularly as we learn new information. In the meantime, if you have questions, please feel free to reach out.

Stay Safe and Healthy! We miss you all!