

Dear Floral Park-Bellerose School District Families,

I hope this letter finds you safe, healthy and strong as we navigate toward the end of a challenging school year. Yesterday, Governor Cuomo officially announced that schools will be physically closed for the remainder of the school year. (Please see the attached Executive Order). That notwithstanding, be assured that our teachers will continue our online continuity of learning program and make sure that all students are engaged and supported for the remainder of the school year.

Governor Cuomo will decide by the end of May whether in-person summer school/programs will be permitted. Either way, we will be prepared to deliver a virtual/blended summer program. Program and curriculum updates will be sent to you in the very near future.

We know that this has been an especially difficult time for our sixth-grade students and parents. Our administrators, teachers, students and PTA's are collaborating to create a special recognition to show how proud we are of their hard work and important contributions to our District. We want them to know they are supported and loved as they move on to junior high.

While we await official guidance on what school will look like in the fall, we will be prepared to address each and every concern and precaution. Safety is our primary concern and we have been doing considerable research on a re-entry plan for September 2020, which will include hand sanitizers installed in every classroom and hallway, as well as bulk ordering PPE such as shields, masks and sanitizers. We are also looking at creative ways to follow any guidelines for social distancing.

In terms of District business, I am happy to report our facilities expansion project will begin on Monday, May 4, first at JLCS and then soon after at FPBS. We will keep you updated throughout this process

on our website. (Look for the Facilities Expansion tab on the left side of the District Home Page). Also, as per the Governor's Executive Order, the budget vote is now scheduled for June 9. We will provide more information to you in the very near future.

It has been said that "Bad organizations are destroyed by crisis, Good organizations survive them, Great organizations are improved by them. (Andy Grove, Intel Co-founder)". We began this crisis as a Great organization and there is no doubt in my mind we will emerge from this even Greater. WE GOT THIS!!!!

**STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY AND STRONG**

Dr. Kathleen Sottile

Superintendent