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Good Afternoon DHS Community:

Now that we are into Week 3 of the Delran High School distance learning protocols, it seems that our “new normal” has begun to set in. I certainly understand how difficult this is for you as we transitioned within a very short time to a cyber-school where instruction is given in an online format. We also know how difficult it is to support the students as many of us do not remember the high school subjects that your children are now taking. I appreciate everything that you are doing at home to support our teachers and ensuring that your children are taking the time to complete the assignments that are given. For those students who are falling behind in their work, the teachers are reaching out to you via email. If they do not get a response, you will be notified via phone by a counselor or building administrator. If you haven’t received any communication, your child is doing great!

Our teachers are providing lessons through a myriad of ways including using online platforms to present the new material. This again is a change; however, I believe that seeing or hearing their teacher will be a positive for your children. Teachers’ office hours can be found on their Google Classroom. Please know that your child can communicate with his/her teacher privately through Google Classroom and you can email the teacher directly. [HERE](#) is a list of the DHS faculty and their email addresses. They are available during regular working hours 7:15 - 2:30. Most of them have been communicating with their students after hours to meet your children’s needs.

I do know, however, that many of your children are doing their work late into the evening. If they have questions, they can communicate with their teacher and they will get a response the following morning. If your child reaches out to a peer, as many do, please stress to them that that is OK! I do, however, wish to state that even though your children are doing the work at home on their own, our code of conduct still applies. Student infractions of academic dishonesty may result in zero credit on an assignment. A breach of academic integrity is much easier if done outside of the teacher’s view; however, as seasoned professionals, many times it is plain to see. We ask that you support the teachers and their efforts and ensure that your children are doing the work themselves. If they do reach out to a peer for assistance, that is OK; however, they truly should be given support and then complete the assignment on their own. If there is a case where the teacher is not communicating with your child, please let me know immediately and I will investigate.

I meet with our school counseling staff at least twice a week so that we can fully support your children. They too are available during regular business hours. If you are having a concern with your child, please reach out to your child’s counselor or case manager. If you need immediate support for your child please reach out to NJ Perform Care. They can be reached at [\(877\) 652-7624](#). If it can wait until the next school day, please email your child’s counselor and he/she will respond as soon as possible.

I have many resources that you, as parents, can use to help support your child. Common Sense, the leading nonprofit organization whose mission is to help kids, families, and educators thrive in a world of media and technology, has convened a group of education, media, and tech partners to launch WideOpenSchool.org, a free online resource to support families and educators who are transitioning to remote learning as a result of the coronavirus.

Wide Open School features the very best resources from publishers, nonprofits, and education companies, including the American Federation of Teachers, Amplify, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Head Start, Khan Academy, National Geographic, Noggin, PBS, Scholastic, Sesame Workshop, Time for Kids, XQ Institute, and YouTube. Find the full site at WideOpenSchool.org.

Additionally, a student from the University of Pennsylvania has put together online tutoring sessions Free of charge for high school students. You can find more information about this platform here:

<https://americatutors.weebly.com>

I also received information on a webinar for families that deals with anxiety about the virus. Many children might be worried about themselves or loved ones. Please arm yourself with as much information as possible. The webinar takes place on Wednesday, April 8th from 7:00 - 8:00 PM. [HERE](#) is the information that you will need to register.

It is imperative that we all abide by Governor Murphy's guidelines of social distancing and personal hygiene. Our nurse, Mrs. Mignogna, has provided a visual representation of how to stay safe during these unprecedented times [HERE](#).

I again stress to everyone to please stay safe, heed the warnings from the President and Governor, and I promise that we will all get through this together.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please know that I am here for you and your children.

With Bear Pride and Spirit,
Daniel S. Finkle
Principal