



Chrys Harttraft, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

March 10, 2020

Dear Somerset County Vocational & Technical School (SCVTS) educational community member,

I am writing to advise you of SCVTS' planning process as we assess the current COVID19 circumstances and the possibility of a health related school closure. SCVTS is working directly with our local Health Department to plan for such an event even though at the present time, there are no confirmed cases in Somerset county.

If the Department of Health determines that a school closure is warranted after assessing a particular case the expected time frame will be for 14 calendar days. After which time, staff and students, not showing symptoms of any type of illness will be permitted to return to school. Should an extended period of time for a closure be determined, the school will communicate such details at that time.

In the event of a closure, SCVTS will be utilizing hybrid models of instruction for students that include on-line learning platforms as well as teacher developed educational materials. In the next few days the district will be assessing the needs of both students and staff via a survey regarding Wi-Fi access and internet accessible devices in the home. We are also developing a learning plan that upon approval by the New Jersey Department of Education's Somerset County Interim Superintendent, the closure days will be counted toward the 180-day educational requirement.

In order for the district to solidify its remote educational plan, **SCVTS will be closed this Monday, March 16th to provide teachers with the necessary training and planning time.** We will be using one of three unused emergency closing days built into our school calendar. Therefore, on March 16th full time students should not report to SCVTS, while share-time students are expected to follow their resident school's schedule and not attend SCVTS during their morning or afternoon Career and Technical Education (CTE) sessions. The Medical Academy senior students will not be provided bussing for classes delivered at RVCC, however classes will be in session on the college campus should alternative transportation arrangements be possible.

Please continue to use our website for updated information. We will be posting communications such as this one, any alert system notifications, and relevant resources on the website. This way families will be able to decipher fact from rumors rather than relying on social media where deceptions and false information can be easily transmitted.

Moving forward, please know that we will do our best to be forthcoming and timely with information as circumstances develop. The safety and wellbeing of our educational community is our highest priority.

Best Regards,

Chrys Harttraft, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools