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## IUFSD to be Closed March 16th & 17th

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March 13, 2020

Dear Irvington School Community,

This morning, more than 50 superintendents met with New York State Officials, a legislative representative and State Education Department officials to discuss the public health concern that the COVID-19 coronavirus poses to our communities and our schools. In this meeting, there was a collective concern for the safety of our students, staff, and our respective communities. We believe that some immediate action is necessary.

The Irvington UFSD will be using two emergency closure days to close schools on Monday, March 16, 2020 and Tuesday, March 17, 2020. This school closure will be consistent with the model of social distancing that has been recommended by the CDC and many medical professionals. There are many unanswered questions for school districts at this time; both as they relate to the potential for the spread of COVID-19 within our schools, as well as the logistical implications for schools.

As a region, it is our expectation that we will obtain further guidance from New York State related to our questions and concerns during this temporary closure. Based upon the information available on Tuesday, the status of the school closing will be re-evaluated. It would be prudent for parents to prepare for an extended school closing as are our teachers.

We understand the challenges and hardships that this decision may pose on our school families. Please trust that this was not an easy decision for any school district. However, we are at a critical juncture for the greater good of our school community and that of the people of New York.

Additionally, I am electing to cancel all field trips and large group gatherings through spring break. Based on the conditions at that time, we will make determinations on future trips and events. A specific listing of these events will be finalized and shared with the school community.

I remain committed to sharing any further developments as they are available. During this critical time our continued partnership and care for one another is essential to successfully navigating this challenge.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Every student, every day,

Dr. Kris Harrison  
Superintendent of Schools

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