



# TEANECK COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

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April 19, 2020

Dear TCCS Community,

As we approach the second week of our revised distance learning plan, I wanted to take a moment to thank and commend our entire community, including our staff, parents, and students for the way everyone has adjusted to this new reality. The positive feedback that has been coming in has been very uplifting, and I encourage you to let your teachers know directly how much you recognize the work that they are doing to ensure that the education of our students continues in the face of these unforeseen circumstances. Your patience and flexibility as we continue to adapt our instructional methods, including the use of various technologies that many are using for the very first time, has been greatly appreciated and extremely important, as we work together to make the best of our current situation.

On Thursday, Governor Murphy reiterated that schools would remain closed and that the status of any potential reopening timeline would be reassessed and shared by May 15. With this in mind, we understand that we will need to continue with our distance learning plan until further notice.

Thank you for your diligence in entering student attendance information in the TCCS parent portal over the course of the first week of our revised distance learning program. Now that it has hopefully become a regular habit, we will only be sending reminders on Mondays. Also, while you are in the parent portal, please be sure to utilize the other tools that are available to review your students' progress, including the gradebook and grades tabs (where you can find current and past report cards). Once assignments are complete, grade information will be available in the parent portal, so it should be seen as your official resource for seeing if work is being completed.

To keep up with daily / weekly assignments, please ensure that your child(ren) are logging into Google Classroom, which is our primary coursework management platform EVERY DAY and submitting their work as close to posted deadlines as possible. Please visit [www.classroom.google.com](http://www.classroom.google.com) or download the iphone or android mobile apps to access Google Classroom. If you experience any issues or need flexibility with due dates, etc. please do not hesitate to reach out to your teachers to let them know. We want to help!

Thank you to all parents who completed the video conferencing permission steps in the parent portal. To ensure that there is no confusion regarding login or access for video conference sessions, teachers will be posting access information on their Google Classroom pages within at least 30 minutes of the start time of any live session. Additionally, we are working with teachers to update the previously shared suggested weekly schedules to specifically indicate when “live” sessions will be taking place. As previously mentioned, thank you for your patience and cooperation, particularly regarding video conferencing. This is new to everyone and your positive participation and assistance - including adherence to our posted guidelines and etiquette rules, which apply to both students and parents - is appreciated and vital during this time.

In recent weeks, I have received requests for information regarding refunds for March lunches and After School Program enrollment fees. As these payments have already been processed by payforit.net, refunds will be coming directly from the school in the form of checks that will be mailed from our business office. We are working through the orders and will be emailing details regarding specific refund amounts in the coming weeks. Thank you for your patience.

Finally, I want to reiterate that we understand that our community faces profound challenges during this time, perhaps due to the virus directly impacting your family, work commitments for essential workers and our heroes who are first responders and healthcare professionals, or possibly a loss of employment due to the current health crisis. While we expect our students to follow teacher expectations to the best of their ability, we completely understand that some students might have to complete their work at different times and we want to be as flexible as possible. We realize that families are dealing with circumstances such as childcare, work responsibilities, or sickness at home. If you experience challenges, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, our counselor Mr. Blanco at [ablanco@tccsnj.org](mailto:ablanco@tccsnj.org), our Director of Special Services Ms. Anders at [kanders@tccsnj.org](mailto:kanders@tccsnj.org), Principal Torres at [storres@tccsnj.org](mailto:storres@tccsnj.org), or me at [rgallo@tccsnj.org](mailto:rgallo@tccsnj.org). We do not want our distance learning program to cause any additional stress on our students and families and we are here to assist.

Please stay safe, healthy, and positive. Have a great week!

Thanks and Best Regards,



Ralph Gallo  
Lead Person / Director