



# TEANECK COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

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June 5, 2020

Dear TCCS Community,

I hope that everyone is doing well. I would like to start this update by sharing how proud I am of our TCCS community and the response that we have seen in the aftermath of last week's senseless murder of George Floyd. We started this week with firm messages from our administration and faculty regarding our stance against racism, injustice, and inequality. This dialogue continued with powerful meetings with our 5th-8th grade students, which were facilitated by Mr. Vernon Johnson. To culminate the week, this afternoon, members of our administration, faculty, and staff stood together in support of the Teaneck [#blacklivesmatter](#) protest and the students (some from TCCS past and present) who organized and participated in this historic event! Please visit <https://youtu.be/r9jOm6bFcm4> to view a brief video with images from today's demonstration.

As we discussed in our student meetings with Mr. Johnson, this is just the beginning. Our students understand that they are the future and as an administration, faculty, and staff, we know that we must lead by example. As a school, TCCS is committed to making the most of this teachable moment and we are determined to keep the dialogue going. Not only is it the right thing to do, but one aspect of our mission is to help our students "become self-directed learners, who make both pragmatic and creative use of basic skills and who understand and appreciate the cultural diversity of our society." Learning does not get more experiential than the real life situations that our students have been faced with in recent history. We are and always will be here for them.

On the topic of cultural diversity, I'm pleased to announce that in honor of LGBTQIA+ Pride month, TCCS will raise the Philadelphia Pride Flag for the month of June. We currently have a digital flag flying on our website, with a physical one to come to 563 Chestnut Avenue soon!

I would also like to remind you that there will be a Board Election Candidates' Forum this Monday at 7pm. Visit <https://tccsnj.org/tccs-board-of-trustees-election-spring-2020/> for details!

Finally, please note that today was the last day of the marking period. Over the course of the next two weeks, students will be doing special morning activities as grade levels and we also have a few exciting schoolwide events planned. Please see the attached slides from my recent Town Hall meeting for more information on this and our revised report card structure for the third term.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Otherwise, have a safe and healthy weekend!

Thanks and Best Regards,

Ralph Gallo  
Lead Person / Director

# Last 2 Weeks of School

- School will still be in session and attendance must still be submitted
- Students will not follow the suggested daily schedules
- Grade levels will be participating in various virtual expeditionary activities
  - Virtual Field Trips
  - Guest Speakers or Presenters
  - Student Projects and Presentations
  - Mindfulness Activities
  - Academic Competitions
- Related Services (Speech, OT, PT) will continue during these weeks
- Student activities will be complete by noon each day
- Afternoons will be devoted to teacher articulation, professional development and preparation for the 2020-2021 school year

# Schoolwide End of Year Events

- Within these last 10 days of the school year, there will be 3 schoolwide events
- Friday, June 12 - Virtual Field Day
  - Students will complete various activities at home and send in video clips, which will be collected and shared on the website and via social media
  - Information to be shared by Mr. T and Ms. Symons
- Thursday, June 18 - Schoolwide “assembly”
  - TCSCO presentation of TCCS’ Got Talent
  - Shared viewing experience
- Friday, June 19 - Last Day of School
  - Homeroom / Grade Level Goodbye celebrations and Class Parties
  - Virtual “Clap Out” for our graduates

# End of 3rd Marking Period / Updates to Report Cards

- Third marking period ends on Friday, June 5 - Last day of formal instruction
- Changes to Report Card markings will vary by grade level:
  - **Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd Grade**
    - No Grades or Indicators for 3rd Term - All feedback and suggestions for improvement / preparedness for next year will be entered into the narrative section.
  - **3rd & 4th Grade**
    - Regular Grades (Exceeds Grade Level, On Grade Level, Approaching Grade Level, Concern) will be utilized for core subjects (Math, Reading, Writing, Science, Social Studies). All other classes or subjects will be graded as Pass or Incomplete. Work Habits section will be left blank. All other feedback and suggestions for next year will be entered into the narrative section.
  - **5th - 8th Grade**
    - Regular Grades (A, B, C, D, F) will be utilized for core subjects (Math, ELA, Science, Social Studies). All other classes or subjects will be graded as Pass or Incomplete.
- Any student in danger of receiving an F or Incomplete for term 3 will have 2 weeks to make up work and/or improve their grade.