April 10, 2020

Dear Members of the Henry Viscardi School Community,

In an effort to keep you informed, I list below two important updates that we received this week. Governor Cuomo announced that all schools in New York will remain closed until April 29. As the governor has done in the past, he will make a decision about possible closure extensions as we get closer to that date. In addition, NYS Board of Regents and the NYS Education Department announced that Regents examinations scheduled for June 2020 have been cancelled. We will share implications of this decision with all impacted students after we have conducted a full analysis.

The last few weeks have been a challenge for us all and can be overwhelming with the amount of online work students have received. While we will continue our Remote Learning from April 13th through April 17th, we do acknowledge that some children and families may need to pause and find some time to relax and recharge. Families also may have plans for the upcoming Passover or Easter holidays and we support all who may choose to celebrate. Our faculty and staff will be presenting learning opportunities that allow students to review and catch up on assignments, as well as engage in some fun activities. This has been a very traumatic experience on everyone, and the last thing we want, is for schoolwork to cause additional stress.

As I stated in my last communication, maintaining our health is critically important during these unexpected and difficult times. HVS would like to share with our school community, some resources to help with managing social emotional needs and supporting overall mental health while we use this upcoming week to participate in a more flexible academic program. Staff will be providing these resources as opportunities for self-reflection, refocusing, and relaxation for the students and/or their families should you choose to do them.

Thank you to everyone for your patience throughout this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything at all.

Sincerely,

Angelo Zegarelli
Head of School