Dear SHS Families!

I hope this letter finds you well and in good health. I want to provide an update on all the work being done during Phase I of our Continuity of Learning during our school closure. As our teachers have been providing Review and Resource Education for your children, we are also ensuring that we are taking care of the health and safety of our staff and facilities, providing meals for students in need, and preparing technology to be accessible for all families. As we continue the Review and Resource Education of Phase I to ensure equitable learning for all of our students, we have been planning and preparing for a continuity of learning at the high school in the event of a possible closure beyond April 14th.

Before I share the specifics of what continuity of learning will look like at the high school level during the school closure, I'd like to be very clear that the program we built is one that recognizes this already heightened period of anxiety. We have taken into consideration that some students may not readily have access to online materials or videos and that remote connection issues could be encountered with online classes. In addition, we realize that each family may have different childcare issues. We are aware that some older siblings may be taking care of younger siblings, some students may be home alone, others at daycare, etc. Given this and more, instruction, as typical, will not occur. Therefore, for our high-school level classes, we decided that there will be no grades given for school work during this closure.

Starting on March 25th, we will be transitioning from Review and Resource Education to Phase II continuity of learning for all high school classes. Phase II will allow teachers to move forward with their curriculum. As a part of this, teachers will be providing approximately 20 minutes of school work per day, per subject. Recognizing that we are not in a "business as usual" environment, these assignments will not carry a grade and are meant to provide some structure for our students with a reduced level of pressure. Specific details will be coming from the teachers of these courses. School counselors, school psychologists, and social workers will collaborate with colleagues to provide resources on social and emotional supports and shall continue to communicate with your children.

Students need to consistently check for teacher messages and updates via email or their technological platform whether it is Google Classroom, Haiku, etc. If your child is struggling with an assignment, please have them set it aside and reach out to their teacher via email for assistance. Teachers have been asked to check in on their students' progress regularly via email. Students can feel free to reach out to their teachers via email if they have questions or concerns.

Families, as stated earlier, this is certainly not business as usual. This is all new for us, and we are adjusting by the day. I simply ask to first and foremost take care of your children and your family. You all need to be healthy and well. As I suggested, our biggest assistance to all of you is communication, communication. Just seeing an email, a video, a resource link, etc., creates that bridge to school for a period of normalcy for our students.

Thank you all again for your continued partnership.

Thank you, Gregory J. Santoro, Principal Skaneateles High School Office 315.291.2269 gsantoro@skanschools.org

