



## *Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Schools*

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*Barbara Sargent, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
*superintendent@pthsd.net*

*PO Box 52, 292 Parsippany Road*  
*Parsippany, NJ 07054*  
*(973) 263-7250*

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Good afternoon, Families.

We are one day away from the last day of school! Who would have believed in early March that the past 12 weeks would have included Distance Learning, “Stay at Home” orders, and face coverings. Many families have experienced significant stress and loss and it is my hope that you come through this stronger and more resilient. We are grateful for the partnership of school and home. You have supported homeschooling, checked in with teachers when things got a bit difficult, and provided for your family in a whole new way. From one parent to another, “Thank You!”

With the gradual easing of restrictions across the state, this is the perfect time to reflect on the positive behaviors that have come out of the past several months. Many families have been able to appreciate more time together. Students have had more time for unstructured play, fewer stressors, and more dinner table conversations at home. I know from conversations with our high school students that the opportunity to sleep a bit later has been a tremendous gift. As we transition back to work, structured activities, and (eventually) school, I encourage you to consider which of these positive behaviors might you hang onto and incorporate into your family’s tradition?

As this will be my last Friday communication for a few weeks, may I offer these final notes:

- The last day of distribution of school lunches for *any student in need* will be **Monday, June 29 (for two days of meals)** between 11:00 a.m. and noon.
- Information about *Summer Stepstones*, a free virtual program for K-8 students, was sent via *School Messenger* earlier today. This provides an excellent opportunity for students to continue instruction in literacy and mathematics with our own Parsippany teachers.
- Summer Reading Assignments for middle and high school students will be posted to each school’s webpage. At the middle school, especially, there is a much stronger element of student choice in the reading selections.

School districts are planning for multiple scenarios for September (In-person instruction, distance learning, and a hybrid of some online/some in-person instruction) and we await further direction from the Governor’s Office. This guidance is expected by the end of June and I will communicate with you over the summer when we have more detailed plans in place. Please know that the safety and well-being of our school community is our highest priority and will be at the forefront of all planning.

With sincere appreciation for your very hard work this year,

Barbara Sargent, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

*Education Today, Success Tomorrow*