



## EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Betsy D'Emidio

Email: [bdemidio@eawildcats.net](mailto:bdemidio@eawildcats.net)

Tele: (412) 824-9700 Ext. 1855

Head Principal/

Asst. Superintendent

Fax:(412) 825-4570

May 8, 2020

Dear parents/guardians:

As we continue to move forward during the closure of schools due to COVID-19, I would like to update you about some topics of significant importance.

**Devices:** The district distributed a number of devices to students, with priority given to seniors. Unfortunately, we do not have enough devices to accommodate all students at this time. Although the district ordered enough devices to meet the needs of each family in the district, we were informed that our order that was placed last month won't arrive until June 2, 2020. We understand that this is a major concern and we are working to rectify this delay.

**Lockers, Textbooks, and Personal Items:** We understand that most students have personal items in their lockers. In following Governor Wolf's guidelines, the district is not letting any non-essential individuals into the buildings. If you would like to pick up an essential item (i.e. glasses, medication, etc.), please contact the JSHS office to make arrangements. The district is in the process of developing a procedure for locker cleanout to be conducted in the near future. This will also include a plan to return textbooks, calculators, and uniforms.

**Grades:** For the fourth nine-weeks grading period, the JSHS will follow the current grading system with a few modifications/accommodations that will promote "grace over grades" during this pandemic. The modifications/accommodations are as follows:

- All teachers will accept late work.
- Grading will emphasize effort, not ability.
- Students will be exempt from specific assignments based on functional levels or ability.
- No student will receive a grade less than 60%.
- Individual student circumstances will be reviewed (i.e. ability, knowledge, access, etc.)
- Teachers have the ability to assign an X grade (exempt) if circumstances warrant.

I understand that this is a new way of educating our students, and with all of the changes we have experienced come many challenges. I appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through the details related to educating our students.

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

Dr. Betsy D'Emidio