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Greetings ICSD Community,

As our school community continues to navigate the significant challenges associated with a pandemic, I want to remind us all to pay attention to our social and emotional well-being. We are experiencing vastly different personal and professional stressors. These stressors have been compounded by last week's announcement from Governor Andrew Cuomo that our school building closure will be extended through May 15, 2020.

While disappointment and ambiguity may lead to anger and angst, our ICSD mental health and wellness team is available to families during these difficult times. We encourage you to reach out and let us know how your family is doing; what you are going through; and how we can help provide the support you need. You can find contact information and resources on our school district's [Mental Health Supports webpage](#).

You can also find much information about [ICSD Distance Learning 2.0](#) on our district webpage. Our students, educators, and families have been engaging in a number of wonderful distance learning experiences. Please find just a few terrific examples below:

- **Elementary** students received a YouTube video from their teacher, challenging them to find things in their homes to “show” a subtraction problem. Students then recorded their real life subtraction problems, wrote equations and posted them to SeeSaw for the teacher and their friends to comment on. Our elementary art teachers have also created a beautiful [arts website](#), available to all families.
- **Middle School** math students have been learning together using Google Meet, and then breaking off into smaller groups to work on problems together, share thinking, and receive more targeted support from teachers - all through a virtual environment.

- Students in a **high school** classroom selected from 3 books they'd like to read, and their teacher is facilitating literature circles through short Google Meet sessions, and written responses on Google Classroom.

In addition to the examples above, we are building a digital time capsule in an effort to capture the creative and innovative ways Team ICSD members are expressing themselves through the arts during distance learning. Please submit entries for our [Digital Time Capsule](#) via Daphne Shululu (Director of Fine and Performing Arts) at [daphne.shululu@icsd.k12.ny.us](mailto:daphne.shululu@icsd.k12.ny.us).

**In closing, please continue to use the [Let'sTalk portal](#) to share your thinking and concerns.** I appreciate your contributions to our school district and community.

Regards,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D.  
Superintendent