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Greetings ICSD Community,

As the spring weather provides us moments of hope and renewal, I find myself encouraged by the sunshine and Governor Andrew Cuomo's words that we should plan for re-opening in the fall. Although schools will be providing virtual summer school, and while we await further guidance from the New York State Education Department (NYSED), our educators have started initial planning for reopening, as well as the development of a plan for community involvement in this process. In the near future, we will share more information about how you can join us. We are in this together and appreciate your partnership.

I am thrilled that we will be honoring our seniors at both Lehman Alternative Community School on June 24th and Ithaca High School on June 25th through virtual graduation ceremonies. These celebrations will focus on the achievements of our graduates, sharing personal stories, and hearing from students' mentors. We have worked closely with the Tompkins County Health Department throughout the planning process and will adhere to their guidance regarding the avoidance of large gatherings. However, we are also holding small, socially-distant ceremonies for each senior, so that each may have a beautiful moment with their families and a few members of their learning community. Details regarding the senior celebrations will continue to be communicated directly to students and families who are a part of the Class of 2020. If you seek additional information about these celebrations, please reach out to your school.

Along with high school graduations, our educators have been collaboratively working to design year-end culminating experiences for our young people. Our goal is to close this academic year with conversations and final learning review/projects. A reminder that the last day for students this academic school year will be **June 16, 2020**. We will provide meals through June 25, 2020. More information about end-of-year dates may be found [here](#).

Thank you for continuing to use the [Let'sTalk portal](#) to share your experiences, concerns, and delights. We are grateful for your work with our young people.

Regards,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D.
Superintendent