UPDATE: April 3, 2020

Dear Staff, Students, and Community:

North Orange County ROP is following the guidance of Governor Newsom and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, to close schools for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year. The safety of our students and staff is and will always be our number one priority, and this guidance from state officials is necessary. The ROP will deliver instruction via distance learning for our high school pathway courses, regional courses and adult programs for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. We are working with our regulatory agencies to determine how to deliver clinical internships and will keep our students updated as we receive guidelines.

Over the past few weeks, I have been incredibly proud of our staff and teachers who have responded to this crisis by transitioning to distance learning and a remote work environment, however, I cannot image the impact this has had on our students. Springtime on high school campuses means that the year is winding down, seniors are preparing for their next journey in life, juniors are excited to become seniors, spring sports teams are entering playoffs, Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are preparing for State and International Leadership conferences, students are studying for certification exams and AP testing. Students are excited for extracurricular events, their prom, student recognitions; all of which are changed because of social distancing.

I can’t help but reflect on this time and how the class of 2020 across the country will forever be changed by COVID-19. I know the class of 2020 and all students are hopeful that there will be goodness out of the darkness. As we finish the 2019-2020 school year, let us remember these words: grace, empathy, collegiality and hope. We will give our students, staff, and community grace during this time. Let us be courteous to one another and spread goodwill. Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. We will continue to be mindful of our students who will be finishing the school year without participating in celebratory events, work-based learning opportunities, and extracurricular activities. Empathize with students when they need it, this is a difficult time for them. Collegiality is the companionship and cooperation between colleagues who share responsibility. We are in this together and need to rely on one other to get through. Reach out to a colleague who may need your assistance; take the time to help one another navigate this situation; most importantly, be student-centered. Lastly, hope. Hope is grounds for believing that something good may happen. I believe we will persevere and come through this stronger because of our students and staff. Our students are innovative and compassionate. Our staff is professional, dedicated, and caring. As our students finish the 2019-2020 school year through distance learning, offer them grace, be empathetic and collegial, and give them hope.

All NOCROP staff members will continue to work remotely during their normal duty hours. Keep in mind that there may be essential functions or services which may require an employee to work part or all of their duty day on site.
The North Orange County ROP team will continue to share new updates surrounding school and office closures through emails, text messages, our website, social media, and/or phone calls.

Thank you for your support and understanding during these unprecedented times.

Stay safe and be well,

Theresa M. Giamarino

Terri Giamarino, Ed.D.
Superintendent