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March 20, 2020

To the NY Mills Union Free School District Community:

I wanted to take this moment to thank all of you. Thank you for your flexibility. Thank you for your creativity, and thank you for showing what Marauder Pride really stands for—all of us doing what is needed for our students, family and staff.

As many of you know, the Governor has limited more and more businesses and services from operating normally. All school buildings across the state are closed with the exception of limited essential staff until April 1st per the Governor's executive order. School is closed in this county until April 14th per the order of the County Executive.

During this current health crisis, you may be considered an essential employee who is still required to work. Child care placement may be available to essential employees who work in health care, grocery stores, transportation, some construction fields, certain non-profit agencies, food or supply distribution fields and first responders. If you believe that you may qualify, please call the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison Child Care Resource Center at 315-223-7850 extension 222.

In an effort to provide more options for lunch as well as some hot lunches, the following changes have been made: Every week day the cafeteria will be open from 11:00-12:30 for a bagged lunch. The bagged lunch will have the breakfast for the following day included. If you are unable to come to school to pick up a lunch, please call our Cafeteria Manager, Mary Ellen Peters at 315-768-3399 x 1761 or my office at 315-768-8127 and we will make sure that a lunch will be provided. Any child 18 years old or younger is allowed to take a bag lunch.

Please check out our webpage. Many online resources and sites have been posted to our webpage that can provide review and/or activities for students. As more guidance becomes available from the Oneida County Health Department, the County Executive's Office, the Governor's Office and/or the State Education Department, I will be sharing it with you. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call. The main offices will be reachable with questions and concerns during the closure by phone or email.

As always, the health and safety of our students, their families, and our staff is vitally important. By working together, we will strive to meet the social and instructional needs of all of our students. Again, thank you all for understanding that this is a very fluid situation that puts all of us in uncharted territory and we must all work together to do the best we can for students, families and staff. Thank you also to all essential personnel who continue to support our community's safety and health.

Please be safe, and whenever possible, stay at home and stay well!

Respectfully,

Joanne Shelmidine, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools