



May 1, 2020

Dear ALH Staff, Students, and Families:

This afternoon, Governor Cuomo announced he will be issuing an Executive Order extending mandatory closure for all New York state schools **through the remainder of the academic school year**. The building will remain closed to students and visitors, and all classes and instruction will continue via distance learning. A decision on allowing in-school instruction for summer school and summer programming will be made by the end of May.

The New York State Education Department also announced the cancellation of the **August 2020 Regents Examinations**. This follows the previous cancellation of the June 2020 Regents Examinations. Again, this applies to all students enrolled in grades 7-12 during the 2019-20 school year who were intending to participate in one or more of the June and/or August 2020 Regents Examinations. Relevant guidance on modifications and information specific to diploma types and graduation requirements has been posted on our website, www.albanyleadershiphigh.org, along with links to the NYSED website where updates and answers to frequently asked questions will be posted on an ongoing basis. Please continue to reach out to our school counselors for information specific to ALH students and individual scenarios.

In his announcement, Governor Cuomo listed a number of factors to be considered before re-opening schools, including monitoring the spread of COVID-19, instilling confidence and reinforcing safety, extra-curricular activities, and academic calendars, to name a few. We will continue to take these factors into consideration as we move forward and implement plans for the remainder of the school year, summer, and the return to school. Over the next couple of weeks, we will provide students, families, and staff with information regarding the processes for retrieving personal belongings from lockers and classrooms, the collection of Chromebooks, graduation and summer school.

Again, we acknowledge that distance learning comes with its own set of challenges, however, we are committed to providing students, families and staff with ongoing support. As we continue to implement remote teaching and learning strategies, the social and emotional wellness of our entire community is of utmost importance. Thus, we are fervently dedicated to finding ways to stay engaged and connected, which we hope will help us continue to learn together and celebrate one another in our victories, no matter how small, as well as all of those important milestones.

The resiliency and adaptability of our ALH staff, students, and parents has been inspirational. Our community is strong, and we will not only endure, but we will overcome the challenging impact of these life-changing events. We enthusiastically look forward to being able to welcome back our students, staff, and families!



Please continue to check our website and social media for resources regarding distance learning, family engagement, social-emotional supports, health and safety, and community resources.

For important information and updates regarding COVID-19, you may access guidance from the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/>), the NYSDOH (<https://www.health.ny.gov/>), or you may call 1-888-364-3065 for the Coronavirus Hotline.

Again, and as always, thank you for your steadfast dedication and ongoing efforts and support. Be safe and be well. #ALH strong.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cariña D. Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cariña D. Cook
Principal/CEO



Standing Reminders:

Breakfast and Lunch for Students

Grab-and-go lunch and breakfast program offered daily and is available to everyone under the age of 18.

Lunch for the current day and breakfast for the following day is available for pick up throughout the closure from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Signage is posted, directing students and families to the location where meals can be picked up, and ALH staff are available for assistance, if needed.

Instructional Resources for Students

Distance Learning for all classes started on Thursday, March 19th. All classes for all students are continuing via Google Classroom and Google Meet throughout the school closure.

All students should have received invites and access codes for their classes through their ALH Gmail for Google Classroom. If you are experiencing any difficulty whatsoever in accessing all Google Classrooms, please reach out to your teachers directly, or contact the ALH main number for assistance at (518) 694-5300.

Chromebooks are available for sign-out and pick up by appointment. If you are in need of a Chromebook, please call the ALH main number.

Free WiFi Access

Spectrum is offering free Internet access to Capital Region households due to the COVID-19 outbreak and school closures. The 60-day offer is available to households that are not already Spectrum customers.

Call 844-488-8395 to enroll and for more information.

Spring Athletics

All scrimmages and contests are canceled for the remainder of the school year.