

March 24, 2020



Dear Garrison Community:

The Garrison School district would like to thank our school community for their continued patience as we respond to the current health crisis. This past week our teachers transitioned the Garrison kindergarten through eighth graders to electronic learning via Google Classroom. The Board of Education and Interim Superintendent, Dr. Debra Jackson, wish to thank our teachers, staff, and families for their willingness to embrace online instruction during this crisis.

While we are practicing social distancing in order to slow the spread of this novel coronavirus, we recognize that electronic learning requires us to come together in new ways. E-learning necessitates a partnership between parents, teachers and students. As a community we must have patience, and realize that this new method of learning will be different for each class and each family. We ask that you please support your teachers during this process. Many have their own children at home while they work to educate ours. Please do what you can, when you can. The healthy and safety of our community remains our top priority.

Additionally, our district continues to respond to the directives from the Department of Education and the Department of Health. As noted at the meeting on Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Garrison UFSD will begin providing childcare for children of essential healthcare workers on Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>. We wish to thank our administrators, our school nurse, and our staff for helping our district to provide this important service.

The Garrison UFSD continues to make progress with our capital project. At Wednesday's meeting, the Board appointed Calgi Construction Management, Inc. to act as the District's construction manager in connection with the capital project. Tetra Tech led a full day of design meetings with school administrators, teachers, and staff via Zoom. Our architects were able to share their drawings and receive constructive feedback.

The district is moving forward with the superintendent search as well. The Board will meet with the consultants from District Wise at the end of the month and begin interviewing candidates.

We again ask our community to understand that the District's response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) requires flexibility. The directives from the state continue to change and evolve. Please reference the GUFs News link on [www.gufs.org](http://www.gufs.org) for communications.

We ask that you and your family members please respect Governor Cuomo's orders regarding social distancing. If you feel you are symptomatic, please call your health care provider or 1-888-264-3065 for a testing appointment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Debra Jackson, Interim Superintendent.  
James Hoch, Board President. Courtney McCarthy, Vice-President.  
Jocelyn Apicello, David Gelber, Jill Corson Lake, Matthew Speiser, Sarah Tormey, Trustees of the Garrison Union Free School District