March 13, 2020

Dear Webutuck Community,

Today, I participated in an emergency phone call with County Executive Marcus Molinaro and the superintendents of each of the Dutchess County Schools.

As I discussed in yesterday’s letter, the situation is a fluid one and rapidly changing. The mission of the County Executive, his team, and all County School Superintendents is to be proactive in our efforts against COVID-19.

With this mission in mind and with a Public Health Emergency, all schools in Ulster, Dutchess, and Orange Counties will be closed at a minimum of the next two weeks. Further direction and instructions about the closure and distance learning will follow.

Although there is only one confirmed case in Dutchess County, other counties, and neighboring states have many more confirmed cases therefore the decision to close is out of an abundance of caution. The goal is to slow the spread of COVID-19 by limiting contact with large groups, social settings, athletic events, and now education institutions.

As from the beginning, my primary goal is the health and well-being of our students, staff, and community.

Respectfully,

Raymond Castellani
Superintendent

RC/tmt