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COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY



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**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Statement on Social Distancing During Online Learning

March 16, 2020

The Verona Office of Emergency Management appreciates the efforts that all Township families are making in order to prevent the transmission of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus.

We remind all families of school-age children that the Verona Public Schools transitioned to an online learning environment in order to flatten the curve of virus transmission by limiting interaction among members of the school community including teachers, staff, and students.

It is therefore vital that students and parents do not treat the staff professional development days on March 16 and 17 or the online learning environment that follows until March 27 in a casual manner like one might treat "snow days."

Please limit person-to-person interaction among unrelated children. This would include having children of other families in your homes and vehicles. We understand that this will be difficult. Children should be able to safely play/gather in small groups outdoors provided parents actively monitor social distancing and avoid contact sports/games and use of communal play structures.

**Please note that all Township and Board of Education fields are CLOSED until further notice.**

Please remember that while children are currently the demographic least likely to exhibit symptoms of the 2019 novel Coronavirus, they may be carriers.

Thank you for your cooperation.