Dear Parents and Students,

First, we hope you and your family are safe and healthy as you read this newsletter.

As you know, distance learning for the Trenton Public School District is in full motion. Our goal is to provide continuous educational support and information for students and parents while schools are closed to eliminate as much stress as feasibly possible.

**SOME IMPORTANT POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE MOVE FORWARD:**

**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!** We know this is a difficult time, and we are working hard to make sure our Academic Coaches continue to support families in every way we can. Our Coaches have begun contacting families to make this as seamless a transition as possible. If you haven’t been contacted, you can expect a phone call in the very near future.

**SUPPORT:** We have created several platforms for you to connect with us and obtain educational support. Connect now using any of the following options:

- **FACEBOOK:** Mercer VeryImportantpeople
- **INSTAGRAM:** @mcccvip
- **GOOGLE CLASSROOM:** Class Code fq5fvsb
- **PHONE:** 609.570.3183 – LEAVE A MESSAGE AND SOMEONE WILL CONTACT YOU

The main focus for our academic coaches, parents and students during this time is “growth”. A growth mindset unlocks our ability to learn and grow especially during challenging times. I believe we all will be stronger when we come out on the other side of the COVID-19 Pandemic! History is being written! We hold the pen! Together, we will write our BEST story!

Together we will get through COVID-19.

THE VIP TEAM

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**COVID-19 test sites opened in Trenton.**
Testing provided for both the uninsured and insured.

**No Primary Care Doctor:** Call Henry J. Austin Health Center 609-278-5900 to determine if a test is needed. The health center will serve all patients, including those without insurance. Staff can quickly connect callers—even new patients—with a doctor via phone or video.

Residents with COVID-19 symptoms who want to be tested MUST first contact a physician. **No one will be tested without a physician’s order.**

If you believe you may have symptoms of COVID-19, the State of New Jersey’s COVID-19 Information Hub provides a self-assessment tool that will help you determine whether you should be tested. Visit [self.covid19.nj.gov](http://self.covid19.nj.gov).

**Henry J. Austin Health Center** offering new services to help stop the spread of COVID-19. **Pharmacy Delivery and Telemedicine** now available for new and current patients. To make a telemedicine appointment call (609)-278-5900 or to set up medication delivery call (609)-278-5931.

**Testing is FREE at all Mercer County-run sites**

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This project was funded in its entirety Under Title IV, Part B of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant funds through a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Education.
PARENTS WE NEED YOU

We know that a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child’s participation in our program.

Please consider joining our parent volunteer group, participating in the enrichment classes as our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions to the VIP program and its operations. We seek parent volunteers to help us with the following activities:

- Program Events/Trips
- Student Recognition Events
- Outreach and Recruitment of Parent and Community Volunteers.
- Lead Parental Empowerment Program (PEP)

Spring Break: The Trenton Public School District will be on spring break from April 10th through April 17th. All schools and administrative offices will be closed.

Tax Filing Extension: Deadline for income and corporate taxes, and for estimated payments, from April 15th to July 15th.

12 Weeks Family Leave: Governor Murphy will sign a bill that will allow employees forced to care for family members because of #COVID19 up to 12 weeks of family leave in a 24-month period without losing their jobs.

COMCAST is offering low-income families 60 days free high-speed internet.


Internet Service: Executive Order 126 prohibits cable and telecommunications providers from terminating Internet and voice service due to nonpayment until 30 days after the current public health emergency has ended.