



February 25, 2021

Greetings Challenge Charter Families,

I hope that you enjoyed your Mid-Winter Recess. As we went on break, our Leadership Team was evaluating the most recent family survey and preparing a staff survey regarding our plans for the remainder of the school year.

At our regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting last night, the Board evaluated and discussed the results of those surveys along with a number of community challenges here in Far Rockaway. Ultimately, the Board made the decision that **Remote Learning will continue through the remainder of this school year due to these factors:**

- Family and staff survey results
- The limited access to COVID-19 testing in Far Rockaway
- The fact that COVID-19 vaccines are not widely available in Far Rockaway
- The 9.5% COVID-19 infection rate in Far Rockaway
- And the risk of upsetting our scholars from their current remote learning routine

As you can imagine, this decision was not made lightly; but was made to prioritize the health and safety of our entire community. In an effort to continue to provide an excellent education for scholars, we are working on the following:

- Utilizing your feedback about remote learning to make revisions to the current program
- Adjusting the calendar in order to provide virtual summer programming from early June to early July in very small groups (for scholars who need extra support)

Additional information will be shared by our principals over the next few weeks. Lastly, we continue to partner with Johns Hopkins on weekly COVID-19 workshops for our scholars, and we look forward to the day we are back together across all four of our school sites.

Families, you have made a huge impact on the learning of our scholars this year, and we thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Les Mullings".

Rev. Dr. Les Mullings
Founder/CEO