

**OCEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

501 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 1  
Ocean City, New Jersey 08226 – 3891  
Phone: (609) 399-5150

[www.oceancityschools.org](http://www.oceancityschools.org)



**Kathleen W. Taylor, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Red Raider:

I am truly in awe of how you have handled the transition to at-home learning with maturity and grace. I know this situation is far from ideal: leave your friends and teachers behind, not to mention sports seasons that you have prepared so hard for, performances and events that you have looked forward to, and memories that you thought you'd make and would last a lifetime.

However, you are among a select group of high schoolers, who will be prepared for college and professional life in ways that will truly set you apart. You will come out of this experience more resilient, a better problem-solver, more technically savvy...the list goes on and on. Colleges and employers will want you as part of their community. They will understand the added value that you bring having faced and overcome these unprecedented adversities, individually and together with your peers.

Despite this look on the bright side, I feel empathy for you – especially our seniors. This is not the school year that you hoped for. However, despite our distance, we can still come together to make some memories that just may last a lifetime.

[Ocean City School District is hosting a Virtual Red Raider Spirit Week starting April 6<sup>th</sup>](#). Let's show our legendary school spirit and *rock* it!

Attached are some [pictures](#) of our [halls](#); they are empty without you, frozen in time. Let's wake them up and have those same conversations and same bursts of energy that you typically had with your friends, classmates, and teachers in those [halls](#), only now online, through a virtual Spirit Week!

In the meantime, reflect a little bit on the attached [BE bulletin board](#). Let it inspire you to embrace and leverage the new social and emotional competencies you've developed during this period of change. Let it motivate you to continue finding ways to make the best of this temporary "new normal."

Remember, we can only control what we can control. Let's take control, together, of how "we rock" this school year in legendary Red Raider fashion!

Please join the High School in showing your Red Raider Spirit by sending pictures of your School Spirit for each day's theme to [HSrocks@ocsdnj.org](mailto:HSrocks@ocsdnj.org)!

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathleen W. Taylor  
Superintendent



***Ocean City School District – Committed to Excellence***

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