



# Manhasset Public Schools

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*Joy-Anne D'Anca, Ed.D.: Director of School Counseling Services*

*Middle School Wellness Team*  
*Brittany Longhway, School Counselor*  
*Kaitlin Moriarty, School Counselor*  
*Robyn Hoffmann, Social Worker*  
*Holly Tricarico, School Psychologist*

March 20, 2020

Dear Middle School Families:

As Director of School Counseling Services, I write to you echoing not only my own sentiments but also that of the *Middle School Wellness Team* comprised of our school counselors, school psychologist and social workers in hoping that you are all well and embracing this new and hopefully temporary “normal” of virtual communication. **As we navigate this learning curve, I want to ensure you that our team is fully committed to supporting you and your children academically, socially and emotionally in every way possible.** May you always know that we are accessible to you for whatever you may need.

Please allow me to share the steps we are taking to foster communication with our students and families in hopes of making the navigation process easier for you in deciphering the most direct contacts for your needs:

1. **Our wellness team is fully accessible** through email for any questions or concerns that you may have as voicemail poses difficulty since they are not in the building. Please feel free to email them at the addresses provided below and they will respond accordingly.

**Ms. Longhway, School Counselor**  
**Ms. Moriarty, School Counselor**

Brittany\_Longhway@mahassetschools.org  
Kaitlin\_Moriarty@manhassetschools.org

**Ms. Hoffmann, Social Worker**

Robyn\_Hoffmann@manhassetschools.org

**Dr. Tricarico, School Psychologist**

Holly\_Tricarico@manhassetschools.org

Whether or not your child receives consistent services from any member of our team, I urge you to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that may arise. This support is also offered to you as parents. We recognize that you too may be working from home or deciphering finances because you are unable to work as many hours as before. Please know that the team is ready and willing to fully support you.

2. Our school counselors will continue to conduct **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meetings** with you and your child. This will be done as a teleconference. We have found that the easiest way to do this to use the **Zoom** application on your phone or computer. We will NOT be using the video feature, but rather just the audio. If you do not have the Zoom app, please following the instructions below:
  - Download Zoom from the app store or through the website zoom.us—you should NOT pay for the app, but utilize the free version

- Your counselor or Mrs. Meyerson, our clerical assistant, will be in contact with you at least one day prior to your meeting to confirm the time as well as an email address or phone number where your counselor can send you a link to enter the meeting.
- On the day and time of the meeting, simply click on the link and follow the prompts from there.
- If you are unable to access Zoom, please tell Mrs. Meyerson or the counselor and she will discuss alternate arrangements.

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**NOTE:** *We are still solidifying the day in which these meetings will begin. Please wait for a confirmation from our staff.*

3. Also included with this letter is a list of community resources at you and your and child's fingertips. We provide this as yet another opportunity to meet your needs collectively and will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding these resources.

The current state of our nation and world is less than ideal and, quite frankly, scary for us as educators, you as parents and your children. We acknowledge the uncertainty and anxiety associated with this and want you to know that we are behind you in person upon our return to school as well as at home. No matter what, we are in this together. As the saying goes: *"Individually we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean."*

I wish you safety and peace always. Please know that I, too, am accessible to whatever you may need. I can be reached at [jdanca@manhasset-schools.org](mailto:jdanca@manhasset-schools.org).

Warm regards,



Dr. Joy-Anne D'Anca

## **Community Resources**

For resources listed below, please contact the agency directly in order to obtain hours of operation as they may be subject to change.

### **American Red Cross Long Island**

195 Willis Avenue  
Mineola, NY 11501  
www.Redcross.org  
516-747-3500

### **Catholic Charities (Referrals and FEMA)**

516-733-7000  
[www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org)

### **Department of Social Services**

[www.nassaucountyny.org](http://www.nassaucountyny.org)  
516-227-8395  
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd  
Uniondale, NY 11553

### **Long Island Crisis Center**

[www.longislandcrisiscenter.org](http://www.longislandcrisiscenter.org)  
516-679-1111

### **Office of Mental Health**

#### **National Suicide Prevention Hotline**

1-800-273-8255  
\*LGBTQ students can utilize this hotline as well

#### **NY State Domestic Violence Hotline**

1-800-942-6906

#### **Crisis Text Line**

Text "got5" to 741741

#### **Resource for Emergency Food**

Long Island Cares  
21 East Sunrise Hwy  
Freeport, NY 11520  
631-582-food  
[www.licares.org](http://www.licares.org)

#### **Whyhunger.org**

Go to the Resources tab and click on Find Food and enter your information

**In the event of an emergency please contact 911 or go to your local emergency room.**

## Recursos en la Comunidad

Para obtener los recursos que se enumeran a continuacion, comuniquese directamente con la agencia para obtener horas de operacion, ya que pueden estar sujetos a cambios.

### American Redcross Long Island (la cruz roja)

195 Willis Avenue  
Mineola, NY 11501  
www. Redcross.org  
516-747-3500

### Catholic Charities (Referrals and FEMA)

516-733-7000  
[www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org)

### Department of Social Services

[www.nassaucountyny.org](http://www.nassaucountyny.org)  
516-227-8395  
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd  
Uniondale, NY 11553

### Long Island Crisis Center (linea de crisis)

[www.longislandcrisiscenter.org](http://www.longislandcrisiscenter.org)  
516-679-1111

### Office of Mental Health

#### National Suicide Prevention Hotline (linea directa para suicidio)

1-800-273-8255  
\*LGBTQ students can utilize this hotline as well

#### NY State Domestic Violence Hotline (linea directa para violencia domestica)

1-800-942-6906

#### Crisis Text Line (linea de texto de crisis)

Text "GOT5" to 741741

#### Resource for Emergency Food (recursos para comida)

Long Island Cares  
21 East Sunrise Hwy  
Freeport, NY 11520  
631-582-food  
[www.licares.org](http://www.licares.org)

#### Whyhunger.org

Vaya a recursos y haga clic en Buscar comida e ingrese su informacion.

**En caso de emergencia, comuniquese con 911 o vaya a la sala de emergencia del hospital mas cercano.**