

# HOWELL TOWNSHIP POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

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March 13, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Members of the PAL Extended Family,

As you may now be aware, the Howell Township School District has decided to close their schools for students on a temporary basis March 16 through March 27, 2020. **The Howell Township Community Enrichment Center at Southard School, including the Howell PAL Little PALs Preschool remains open at this time.**

In an effort to provide needed childcare to our parents and guardians affected by the district closing, the PAL will offer childcare under our "Day Off" program. The "Day Off" is held at the Southard Enrichment Center, and is available from 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM. For pricing, please call the PAL Office at (732) 919-2825.

**The "Day Off" Program is available for the following children only:**

- Children now enrolled in the PAL Before School and After School childcare programs at the Howell Township School District Schools.
- Siblings of any child now enrolled in the Howell PAL Little PALs Preschool.

Parents and/or guardians must contact the PAL Main Office by phone, 732 919-2825, as soon as possible for specific instructions on enrolling your children. With the exception of Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, parents/guardians must enroll their child a minimum of two days in advance to allow the PAL to ensure appropriate staffing and resources.

Attending students will be allowed to access their home learning assignments and will be given time to complete their paper-based assignments.

The Howell Township Police Athletic League is taking the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) very seriously and will continue to closely monitor all accurate information concerning this important issue. While at this moment we remain open, the PAL may close and discontinue all childcare services at a later date if mandated or if conditions warrant our closure.

The PAL is in close and frequent contact with representatives from the Howell Township Public School District, the National Association of School Nurses, the Monmouth County Health Department and the New Jersey Department of Health.

The health and safety of the children in our care and our staff is our highest priority. We continue to follow all recommendations of the Center for Disease Control. Our staff are sanitizing surfaces, sanitizing all equipment, practicing all recommendations for safe food and snack handling, reinforcing and utilizing all hand washing and bathroom hygiene practices, and taking all precaution in contagion control.

The PAL will continue to be proactive and asks that all parents, guardians and members of the PAL extended family follow all recommendations of health officials:

- Stay home if you feel sick. That includes keeping at home your children if you, your child or a family member exhibits any flu-like or upper respiratory symptoms. Spreading and avoiding contact is the primary prevention method.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth to avoid the spread of germs.
- Cover coughs and sneezes. Then dispose of tissues appropriately.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces at your home and your place of work.
- Wash hands frequently and use hand sanitizer to reduce the spread of germs.
- Communicate honestly with your personal and professional contacts. If you or an immediate family member comes into contact with a confirmed case, or if you become a confirmed case, it is your responsibility to report that important information to all of your contacts, including the Howell PAL.

**While we understand parent and guardian issues concerning childcare, we again reinforce that any child exhibiting flu-like or upper respiratory symptoms must be kept at home. Any child exhibiting these symptoms will not be admitted. Once at Southard, any child who becomes ill, shows any symptoms of upper respiratory illness and/or has a fever at or exceeding 100.5 will be separated from other students. The parents/guardian of that child will be contacted to immediately respond to Southard to remove the child from our location. Return to our care may require further evaluation by a health care professional.**

Please understand that all of the above actions are now in place for the safety and welfare of our children, our staff, and our extended PAL families.

We thank you for your continued faith in the PAL and your cooperation.

Please visit the Howell Township Public Schools [COVID-19 Website](#) for more updates and information.

Sgt. Christopher Hill  
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Howell Township PAL  
President Emeritus  
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