



**New York State
Mentoring
Program**

NEW YORK STATE MENTORING PROGRAM

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Matilda R. Cuomo, Founder & Chair

April 16, 2020

Dear New York State Mentoring Program Students,

I applaud you as you have switched from a traditional school day to continuing your education at home. I know this has been a new challenge for everyone but you have made the adjustment remarkably well. Most of your mentors have also been working from home and they miss seeing you each week.

As a former teacher I know how important it is for you to see your classmates, teachers, coaches, and mentors each day. I also know how much time you dedicate to your academics, clubs, sports, practicing instruments, rehearsing for plays, designing yearbooks, and planning proms and graduations.

It saddens me these activities are on hold and that you have not been able to fully display your talents during this unprecedented time. However, I am inspired when I remember how New York's students are resilient, bright, compassionate, and focused. I have full faith in you and your teachers as you continue to prepare for the future.

I encourage you to continue working on your academics until we can resume classes and mentoring at school. Stay focused on learning, developing healthy habits, and continue to forge ahead. Good luck New York State students.

Sincerely,

Matilda Raffa Cuomo
Founder & Chair, New York State Mentoring Program

• Change a life. Be a Mentor •