

NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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Good Morning Elementary Students and Caregivers,

Many of you have reached out regarding next steps for remote/distance learning. We wanted to provide you with a timeline of what the district has been doing up to this point. We understand that you have a lot on your plates trying to manage home schooling, taking care of your families, and work. Also, there have been many emails from both the district and your schools that make trying to keep track of everything overwhelming. The hope is that with this document, you can look at the timeline all in one place rather than searching through emails.

Our goal is to make sure our families are getting the support they need in such an unsettling time. We appreciate your patience as we all try to manage the best way to provide for our students academic and social emotional well-being. Please feel free to reach out to any of us at any time. We are here for you and your children. We will get through this together. We miss you and look forward to the day where we can all be together again.

Week 1 of school closure:

- Teachers provided **OPTIONAL** review, practice, and enrichment **activities** to students. At this time we were told we were out for 14 days. The goal was for students to continue to engage, think, and stay connected to academics and the school community.
- **Meals were organized** for the school community.
- **Wifi hotspots and chromebooks** were delivered as needed so all students could have equal access to technology.

Week 2 of school closure:

- Members of our school community **reached out to families** to make connections and check in.
- Communication plans were made to connect with students who were hard to reach.
- Governor Baker announced on Thursday, April 2nd that schools would remain closed until May 4th.

Week 3 of school closure:

- Teachers and administrators worked to **design a specific remote learning plan** for all students. This plan was designed with guidance from the Commissioner of Education, DESE, and superintendents. It is our responsibility to consider all student needs and remain flexible and equitable. Administrators met with teachers and staff to share feedback and will continue to **update the remote learning plan**.

On Friday, April 3rd grade level teams shared their plans with administration for remote learning. With this communication, you are receiving an updated remote learning plan [HERE](#). In addition, we are including more information about Student Services [HERE](#).

Please know that the intentions of the elementary faculty and staff are to do what is best for students. We are very aware that our students and caregivers have varying degrees of experience and response to this crisis and to remote learning. We will remain thoughtful, helpful and flexible. Please reach out to your child's teacher or any other staff you feel might be helpful if you have any questions or concerns. We want to do anything we can to help you through this difficult time.

Many thanks and well wishes from your elementary principals,

Beth Choquette, Bridge Street School

Gwen Agna, Jackson Street School

Sarah Madden, Ryan Road

Chris Wenz, Leeds