



BOLTON HIGH SCHOOL

BOLTON, CONNECTICUT

Joseph V. Maselli, *Principal*

Christine M. Johnson, *Dean of Students*

Bolton High School believes in the development of capable, ethical, thoughtful, and responsible citizens.

Dear BHS Families,

I hope you have been receiving all of Superintendent Heckt's emails over the last few weeks. We have worked as a team to have a plan for distance learning during this time of school closure. I'm sending this email directly to you instead of through our SchoolMessenger system so I could include students. If you have not gotten her emails, please let me know.

Several weeks ago, the teachers at Bolton High School began planning to provide distance learning to BHS students. When students were sent home last week, we were not sure what the future would bring but we were prepared. As outlined by Superintendent Heckt, we will begin online learning for BHS students starting Monday, March 23rd. The BHS Faculty has been working together the last several days to put the finishing touches on our plan and are confident we can continue instruction for our BHS students. Attached are detailed documents sharing specifics of our plans. These outline the expectations for students during this time. We do not expect them to be online 9-3 each day. However, students need to create a schedule that assures they will be online and working on assignments for several hours every school day. At BHS, we will be using Google Classroom to organize the distance learning. Most of our students have already been using this platform with BHS teachers for the last few years. Students may also use their school email to email faculty. Every student should make sure they are enrolled in the Google Classroom for all their courses and check in with that classroom every day.

All teachers will post an opening message in each of their Google Classrooms by 3pm tomorrow. This statement will include comments about their general routine, expectations, and what component of the curriculum they will kick-off on Monday. There will also be a statement about academic integrity and digital citizenship.

If a student is having trouble connecting to this online classroom and can't reach their teacher, they should call the school main number, 860-643-2768. When they hear my message about school being closed, they should hit "1" to leave a message in Mrs. Carvalho's voicemail. She or I will be checking this box daily and will make every effort to get back to students within 24 hours. Please note that any staff calling you will be doing so with a blocked caller ID because they are calling from their homes or through Google Classroom. If you have your phone system set to not accept calls with blocked ID, no one will be able to call you. Please check with your phone provider to find out how to adjust this.

During the time that we are learning online, teachers will be monitoring to see if students are checking in and working on assignments each day. To keep track of students who may not be engaged in this distance learning, we will use PowerSchool attendance. If a teacher notices that a student has not been engaged in the online learning, they will be marked absent. This way, parents, school counselors, and administration can quickly identify students that may need additional supports.

We will adjust the end quarter 3 to be April 1st and quarter 4 will start April 2nd.

Please see the attached documents and a short audio message from me. We will be using our district website to post additional information that might be helpful to parents during these challenging times. Please visit www.boltonpublicschools.com. Information specific to BHS will be on the BHS portion of



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the website. On the district page you will see “select a school” in the upper left corner, you can choose the high school.

Also, we will continue to provide “To Go” breakfast and lunch meals on Monday and Wednesday mornings between 8:00 – 9:00 AM at Bolton High School for any children and their siblings up to age 18. Parents are not required to bring their children to pick up the “To Go” meals. In addition, we have contacted families that indicated they do not have a device at home to complete their schoolwork. We have a limited number of additional devices for other families with critical need to borrow a school device. If you have this need, please contact our Dean of Students, Christine Johnson: cjohnson@boltonct.org.

As always, I’m reachable by email and will make every effort to respond to your questions quickly. jmaselli@boltonct.org.

Thank you and stay healthy!

Joe Maselli