

# BOLTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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June 16, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

Our success as a school district continues to be the direct result of the hard work of our administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents, and the community. As this school year draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank our BPS team, our students, and our families for your strong commitment to the Bolton Public Schools and for partnering with us to ensure that Bolton maintains its commitment to excellent schools led by talented educators and staff dedicated to the success of the children and families we serve.

## **Closing of the 2019-2020 School Year**

The closing of every school year is always a time of reflection and celebration as we honor the outstanding achievements of our students. When our lives were turned upside down by the COVID-19 health crisis, our school community came together rapidly guided by three core values: connection, core content, and creativity to support our students in the “new normal.” While distance learning has continued to be an extremely heavy lift for all of us, I would like to take this opportunity to again thank our dedicated administrators, teachers, central office staff, paraprofessionals, administrative assistants, custodians and food service staff for their tireless efforts on behalf of the students of Bolton. This has been a full team effort and every single member of our staff has stepped up to do what is right and best for kids.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend our students for their grit and perseverance during this pandemic and our parents for their partnership and teaching at home. Lastly, I would like to thank the Board of Education and the Town of Bolton for their constant support during this very difficult year. I am incredibly proud of how our community has come together during this worldwide pandemic and a divisive landscape fraught with racial injustice to keep our students learning and the school district running.

## **Message to the Graduates of 2020**

Last night we celebrated the Class of 2020 in true Bolton style! The Bolton Public Schools are proud of you, Class of 2020, for the manner in which you have endured and risen above the challenges of the end of your school year. While this was not the year any of us envisioned for you, your ability to navigate the difficulties and find new ways to celebrate your accomplishments shows true grit, adaptability, and strength of character. This is your legacy and your strength will forever leave its mark on the Bolton Public Schools. On behalf of the Bolton Board of Education, our District and the entire Bolton community, we celebrate and honor you and wish you the all best as you embark on your next journey.

Lastly, thank you to our staff, families and the Bolton community for making the commencement of the Class of 2020 a special event.

### **“Grab n’ Go” Meals**

We will continue to provide breakfast and lunch meals through June 30, 2020. We will distribute two days of breakfast and lunch meals on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 – 9:00 AM at Bolton High School for any children and their siblings up to age 18 who live in Bolton. Please note we are hoping to be able to continue to serve meals throughout the summer and are waiting for a determination from the Connecticut State Department of Education. If we are able to provide “Grab n’ Go” meals throughout the summer, service will not begin until the week of July 6<sup>th</sup> and I will send a notification with all the information.

### **Stay Informed in the Summer**

We will provide specific details and updates regarding the plans for school in the fall of 2020 via email, so please check your email regularly throughout the summer.

### **Bolton Community Music 2020**

Every year, we hold a Bolton Community Music event where we invite all members of our community to come together to make music...usually in person. This year, our music staff created something amazing in spite of not being able to be together to play music. We had over 100 submissions and I am sure you will enjoy the show at <http://openmic.link/kpal>.

[In closing, please know how much I appreciate your patience, kindness, support, and partnership. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break!](#)

Warm regards,

*Kristin B. Heckt*

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Superintendent of Schools