

# BOLTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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June 25, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

I hope you are finding time to unwind and enjoy the summer! Below please find some important updates that I hope you will helpful.

## **Return to School**

This afternoon Governor Lamont and the Commissioner of Education Dr. Cardona in collaboration with DPH announced an overview of the state's guidance for the reopening of schools in Connecticut in the fall which includes the following five health and safety guidance protocols and infection mitigation strategies:

- Maximizing social distancing
- Frequent handwashing/use of hand sanitizer
- Face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth for all
- Enhanced cleaning/disinfection of the buildings
- Utilizing cohorts in grades K-8

The complete detailed guidance will be shared with districts on Monday. To view Governor Lamont's announcement and related documents please go to the following link at [Governor Lamont Announces Back to School Plan](#).

Commissioner Cardona shared with superintendents on a call today that the state will continue to monitor the COVID-19 data and adjust the guidelines as needed. Everything, of course, is subject to change as the pandemic evolves.

As a result of the current guidelines, we will be working with our Return to School Committees comprised of administrators, teachers, and staff during the month of July to plan for all students and staff to return to school on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. The work of the committees will be to review all the guidance and design a detailed plan that includes, but is not limited to: schedules, health and safety, high-quality teaching and learning, social-emotional needs and issues of equity, and the use of technology to support our instructional programs. We will also continue to consult with Bolton's emergency management team comprised of town and school officials, the local health district director, as well as fire and police representatives to ensure that we are aligned with the state's guidance.

## **School Calendar**

For your reference, attached please find a copy of the 2020-2021 school calendar. [Bolton Public Schools 2020-2021 Calendar.pdf](#)

### **Summer “Grab-n-Go Meals”**

Next week, breakfast and lunch meals will be distributed on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> for two days. I am pleased to share with you that we will be providing meals throughout the summer beginning on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. Our schedule for distribution of meals from Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> will be every Tuesday (3 days of meals) and every Friday (4 days of meals) between 9:00 – 10:00 AM on the side of Bolton High School by the cafeteria.

### **Great News!**

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has awarded Bolton a \$100,000 grant! Up to \$50,000 can be used the first year and the other \$50,000 will be invested with portions available each year going forward. An advisory board needs to be selected and community members including students 14 or older are encouraged to apply. Attached please find an announcement letter that includes a link to HFPG website where there are links to the online application as well as a downloadable application. They are hoping for a diverse group of individuals to represent all members of our community. [Bolton Gives Announcement.pdf](#)

### **Stay Connected**

We are committed to keeping you informed about our plans for the reopening of our schools in the fall and are looking forward to the return of our students and staff. I urge you to check your email throughout the summer for updates.

Stay safe and be healthy,

*Kristin B. Heckt*

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Superintendent of Schools