

BOLTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

April 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

I am extremely proud of our community as we work together to navigate this global health crisis that continues to have a significant impact on our daily lives. It has been a tremendous task for our educators, staff, and families to support our students with continuous distance learning while also managing this profound disruption in their own lives. While this is clearly uncharted territory for us all, we are making a difference together!

Research has shown that a deciding factor for whether a stress experience is tolerable or toxic is the presence of caring and supportive relationships. I encourage you all to take time to reach out and tell your children, family, teachers and staff at our schools, friends, and colleagues that you care about them and how they are doing. I hope you find the attached link helpful as we continue to deal with the stress of this pandemic at

https://www.allencomm.com/courses/covid19_5_tips_to_face_your_anxiety/index.html.

Distance Learning

In a very short amount of time we have redesigned teaching and learning. We are continuing to learn as we go and the sheer magnitude of the change means that we are still making countless daily decisions in support of our students. Some of these decisions are dependent on guidance from state and federal officials. We remain committed to sharing information as soon as we can to keep our staff, families, and students informed.

Your input and feedback continues to be very important to us. I would ask that if your child(ren) are having difficulty managing distance learning, completing assignments, or are in need of other supports to please reach out to the teacher directly. Also, if you are having difficulty connecting or have other questions please reach out to the building administrators to assist you.

April Vacation

We will be having April vacation from Friday, April 10th (Good Friday) through Friday, April 17th. I believe at that point our teachers, administrators, staff, students, and parents will need time away from emails, technology, and distance learning at home.

Grab n' Go Meals

Just a reminder we continue to offer breakfast and lunch "Grab n' Go" meals during the closure. This is available to any Bolton family with children up to age 18.

Please note that for next week (April 6th – 10th), we will be serving three (3) breakfast and lunch meals on Monday, April 6th and four (4) breakfast and lunch meals on Thursday, April 10th.

For the week of April vacation (April 13th – 17th) we will be back to our regular schedule and serving two (2) breakfast and lunch meals on Mondays, two (2) breakfast and lunch meals on Wednesdays, and three (3) breakfast and lunch meals on Fridays at Bolton High School between 8:00 – 9:00 AM.

Please be sure to follow the following protocol:

1. Line up in cars on the side of Bolton High School next to the cafeteria.
2. Please **Do Not Leave** your vehicle or enter the building.
3. Tell us how many children in your care that need meals.
4. Wait in vehicle with trunk or rear door open and staff will place meals in your vehicle.
5. Staff **Will Not** put meals through an open front window.

Resources

Please remember you can find many resources on our district webpage at <https://www.boltonpublicschools.com/>. At the top of the webpage you will find a link for distance learning at https://www.boltonpublicschools.com/distance_learning as well as a link for all district and school specific communications at https://www.boltonpublicschools.com/covid19_update.

Helen Keller once said, *“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.”* We must continue to be united, compassionate, and support each other as the coronavirus becomes more widespread. I believe music can help to lift our spirits as well and so I want to leave you with the remote version of the Colorado Symphony’s Ode to Joy at <https://youtu.be/p09hpKAv9Jc> and my two favorite songs in one renowned medley by Israel "Iz" Ka'ano'i Kamakawiwo'Ole of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and "What a Wonderful World" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fahr069-fzE>.

Stay safe and be well,

Kristin B. Heckt
Superintendent of Schools