



Littleton Public Schools

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March 27, 2020

Dear Littleton Families,

We would like to start out by thanking you for your support, flexibility, and patience as we navigate through this difficult and unprecedented time. Throughout the initial weeks of this crisis, our educational community has prioritized the health, safety, and wellness of students, families, educators, and staff. We hope amidst the busyness of this constantly evolving situation you have found some moments of calm and peace with your families.

On Wednesday, March 25, 2020, Governor Baker ordered all schools to remain closed until at least May 4, 2020. Since this announcement, we have received some further guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education that encourages districts to create a plan for remote learning. In considering remote learning, it is important to note that it is not synonymous with online learning. As we continue to move forward and build a structure of remote learning for our students, we want to keep this in mind. This time is an opportunity for our students to experience authentic learning and real-world application while practicing physical distancing.

Our administrative team has begun conversations about what remote learning could look like for Littleton Public Schools. Over the next week, we plan to continue these conversations with faculty and build a framework for implementation. Our current district goal is to start remote learning with our students on Monday, April 6, 2020. As we have noted previously and as the Commissioner of Education has noted in his latest update to districts, remote learning cannot replace students' experiences in school communities with their teachers, administrators, and support staff. In our remote learning plan, we will not be replicating what would be done during a school day. That said, we must all pull together to help students continue their learning over this extended period.

Within this framework we will work to provide specialized instructional opportunities and related services to students with disabilities to the greatest extent feasible. If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and/or Section 504 Accommodation Plan, on an individual basis your child's liaison, coordinator and/or educational team members will contact you and discuss their plan to best meet your child's individual needs.

It is the policy of the Littleton Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin, color, homelessness, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its educational programs, services, activities or employment practices. Further information may be obtained by contacting Justine Muir, District Equity Coordinator at 978-540-2500, jmuir@littletonps.org or 33 Shattuck Street, P.O. Box 1486, Littleton, MA 01460.

Our mission is to foster a community of learners who strive for excellence and prepare each student to be a successful, contributing citizen in a global society.

Please know that while it may not be possible to provide all services in the same manner they would be provided pursuant to students' plans if school were open, our goal will be that each child will receive as much individualized instruction and related services as possible through remote learning opportunities during this time of unprecedented national emergency.

Once school resumes, teams will review how the closure impacted the delivery of special education and related services to individual students and convene meetings as necessary in order to make an individualized determination as to what services may be necessary moving forward. If a students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) and/or Section 504 Accommodation Plan expires during the school closure period, it will remain in effect until a new IEP or 504 plan is developed, irrespective of the expired date reflected in the IEP or 504.

Within this framework we will work to provide English Language Learners support to the greatest extent feasible. If your child is an English Language Learner, on an individual basis your child's English Language Learner (ELL) teacher will contact you and discuss their plan to best meet your child's individual needs through remote learning opportunities.

While this is a difficult time, we do believe that unique opportunities exist to continue the social and academic connections that our educators and students have made thus far this year. We will refer to guidance released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, found [here](#), and confer with our educators to ensure that we implement remote learning in a way that provides a positive learning experience for our students and their families. We are grateful for our educators and caregivers who continue to embrace new challenges and juggle unusual responsibilities. We will continue to keep you informed as we progress forward with the development of a remote learning plan.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kelly R. Clenchy
Superintendent of Schools



Mrs. Elizabeth M. Steele
Interim Director of Curriculum



Justine Muir
Director of Pupil Services

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