

Stafford Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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March 20, 2020

Dear Stafford Public Schools Community,

The purpose of this communication is to provide the school community with an update regarding the continuation of learning for all of our students. All faculty and staff have begun making preparations to shift from supplemental learning toward remote learning during the school closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, we have received no additional guidance regarding the duration of the school closure.

Interim Learning Plan

The Connecticut Department of Education has required all districts to shift from supplemental learning to distance learning. The Director of Curriculum & Instruction has been working with teacher leaders across the district to develop an interim learning plan that will commence for all students on Monday, March 30, 2020. District staff will engage in professional learning, training, and course preparations throughout the week of March 23, 2020. While no plan will come without challenges, we are committed to a process of continual reflection and improvement to ensure we meet our students' diverse learning needs to the greatest extent possible during these unprecedented times. By the middle of next week, we anticipate being able to provide parents/guardians with access to a website, which will host parent resources to support students learning from home.

Tips to Promote Learning Success

Our staff is in the process of developing learning plans to meet the needs of all students. To provide structure and daily routines, elementary learning plans have been created to guide families in promoting consistency throughout the school day. The secondary classrooms will continue to utilize Google Classroom as a repository for digital and print instructional materials and supporting resources. As you prepare for this shift in education, please use the following tips to maximize your student's success and focus:

- Provide a quiet, distraction free environment for learning.
- Prepare materials so that they are easily accessible during learning times.
- Provide encouragement and support as we all embark on this new learning journey.
- Communicate with your student's teacher(s) for individualized support or assistance.
- Assist students in Grades PK-5 by helping them access materials and check email regularly for updates from their school.

Special Education and Related Services

Our committed team of special education teachers, along with the pupil services staff of social workers, school counselors, and psychologists, are available to support students and families throughout this experience. The special education and related services staff will be working diligently to provide special education and related services to students. Members of this department will be communicating with those families in the future to explain how services will be provided. Please do not hesitate to contact members of this department or the Pupil Services Office should you have any questions or concerns.

Student Technology

The Instructional Technology Department distributed a survey to all district families to determine the level of student need with regard to technology. Families that have indicated they require a device will be contacted next week with distribution details.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and cooperation during these challenging times. If we can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

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