

## **COVID-19 Update March 14, 2020**

***This message is intended to provide clarifying information for families following the announcement of the closure of the Clinton Public Schools.***

### **Closure**

- Schools will be closed beginning March 16, 2020 for an indefinite amount of time. Families should be aware that the closure will last at least two weeks, and it is likely that the schools could be closed for a longer period of time. Our schools will reopen when we receive guidance from our local health department that it is safe to do so.
- All school-related activities and sports, as well as use of school facilities by outside groups, are cancelled during the time the schools are closed.
- All events and activities that were previously scheduled to take place in our schools have been cancelled through April 30, 2020.
- The School-based SAT that was scheduled for Wednesday, March 25th has been cancelled and will be rescheduled.
- Meetings that may have been scheduled with families for any reason will be cancelled and rescheduled upon the reopening of our schools. The Director of Special Services will send a follow-up correspondence directly to parents of students with disabilities.

### **District and School Operations**

The local health district (CRAHD) has indicated that it is safe for 12- month employees to continue to work in our schools. Therefore:

- District and School Administrators will be working in the next two weeks to plan and coordinate as we respond and adapt to the guidance and information from our health officials and state department of education.
- The district/central office and business office will remain open and staffed.
- Custodial and Maintenance staff will be deep cleaning and sanitizing our schools.
- The CT State Department of Education (CSDE) has received approval to allow meal service to students from school locations during a COVID-19-related school closure. We will be submitting an application and plan to the state for

approval and will provide more information about this program as soon as possible.

### **School Year and School Calendar**

The Governor issued an Executive Order on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 that waived the 180 School Day requirement. On March 13, the CSDE provided a clarification that districts are required to make up days of school that are missed and that would mean adding days to the calendar through June 30, 2020. School districts will need to make local decisions and adjustments to their school calendar. We will be reviewing the calendar and various options and scenarios for meeting the state requirements. We can appreciate that there are many decisions that are dependent on the school calendar and locking in particular dates, but at this time we are not able to provide any decisions based on the unknown circumstances we are facing. We will provide updated information about impacts to the school calendar and school year as we are able.

### **Supplemental Education**

A school messenger email was sent to all families this morning from Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti. We are providing *Supplemental learning* for our students which is optional, but is a method for parents and students to stay engaged with learning and skill development during this closure. The materials can be found on each of the school's websites.

### **COVID-19 Resources**

See below for valuable resources and information:

#### [How to Prepare for the Coronavirus at Home](#)

Includes information on preparing, cleaning and disinfecting, and what to do if you are sick

Important Websites for updated information:

[CDC-Coronavirus](#)

[CT Department of Public Health-Coronavirus](#)

Resource for how to talk to your children about COVID-19

[Talking to Children about Infectious Diseases](#)