

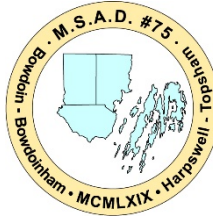
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May 1, 2020

Covid-19 Update Letter #11

Dear M.S.A.D. No 75 families:

As we continue with remote learning, I want to provide you with an update as we plan to finish the rest of the school year through remote learning.

End-of-year calendar: At the April 30, 2020, M.S.A.D. No. 75 Board of Directors meeting, the following was approved to the Calendar.

Grades K-11:

Friday, May 29th will be the last regular instruction remote learning day.

June 1st -12th

Starting on June 1, all grade levels K-11 will transition to offering targeted support for students who are furthest behind. Teachers will focus on smaller groups of students and work further with the essential learning goals. Students will be requested to engage in this targeted learning support structure based on teacher/administration recommendation. For students who do not need targeted instruction, we will offer optional learning activities, which families can use with their children.

Seniors: Information concerning seniors and end of year requirements will be shared with students and families directly by Mrs. Brunette and her MTA staff.

Grading and Reporting Expectations: We are adjusting approaches to grading and reporting for the second semester in Grades 6-12 and the third trimester for K-5. These changes reflect our recognition of disparities that students experience when it comes to online access and supports at home with the many challenges that families and staff are facing as they strive to make remote learning work. Districts throughout the region and country are making similar changes.

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 will receive a written summary of learning for the third trimester and review of the academic year. Middle school students will receive a score that indicates they have “met” or “not yet met” certain essential standards. At the end of the school year, the middle school will make a “Semester Two Report Card” available to parents via the Empower portal. High school students will have the option of continuing with the current grading system or request, with parental permission, a pass/incomplete option for the

fourth quarter. Regardless of the grading choice made by students and parents, the second-semester grades will not be used in the calculation of a student's cumulative GPA.

End-of-Year Rites of Passage: Our high school principal and leadership team surveyed our high school seniors, and they overwhelmingly indicated that they prefer to maintain the scheduled June graduation date. As such, we are keeping our current graduation date of June 14, 2020, and different options are being discussed with student input. Further details of what "graduation will look like" will be forthcoming.

Regarding other end-of-year activities, such as 5th grade and 8th-grade end-of-year celebrations: Individual schools are determining which end-of-year events might be held virtually.

We are also developing a plan to allow students who left items in school buildings to be able to retrieve them at the end of the school year. Each building will communicate access for students in the coming weeks.

Summer Activities: We are working to explore ways of offering summer school and extended school year (ESY) for students. We will have more information concerning these programs by the middle of May.

Unfortunately, we will not be offering Kindergarten Jump-Start for selected students.

Elementary Technology: This week, elementary families that requested laptops have been issued laptops to assist their children in remote learning. We look forward to increasing student engagement and learning using these resources.

Again, we strongly ask that you and your family do everything you can to follow our Governor's instructions, along with the State and National CDC, concerning the spread of COVID-19.

Be well!

Sincerely,

Shawn M. Chabot
Superintendent of Schools