

**3/19/20**

**From Superintendent of Schools, Steven Lamarche:**

All,

It is our hope that you are doing okay and learning how to navigate this surreal time in our lives. We know this is a real struggle for so many and our thoughts are with you as we try to provide information that you can use.

All of our schools and offices are closed to the public until further notice.

This Friday we will continue our Free and Reduced Grab-n-Go program. This will take place at SHRHS for Dudley families and CMS for Charlton families. From 11:00 AM through 1:00 PM we are asking parents/caregivers to drive to the pick-up location. A staff member will ask for a student(s) name for confirmation purposes only. From there we will place 3-4 days of food in your vehicle. We will repeat the process on Monday, March 23, 2020 and then Friday March 27, 2020 and on Mondays and Fridays until further notice. Again, we know that some families and caregivers may now qualify for free and reduced meals. We will work with you, but all we ask is that you provide the staff member with a completed [attached] application when we provide you with food.

As a reminder we will be set to have identifiable *learning opportunities* on our website under the COVID-19 tab tomorrow, March 23, 2020. I want to reiterate a few important guiding factors associated with these learning opportunities. We cannot replicate the school day for all of our students and the learning opportunities are ungraded. The work is not mandatory and we will not administer tests or quizzes. These factors are critical as we are not providing direct instruction to all of our students and we do not have the capacity to provide direct instruction to all of our students during this extended school closure. Our efforts and factors are the same as many, many districts across the Commonwealth.

We are not accepting any more payments for services from families. This could be outstanding balances etc. We will look to resume this when school is back in session. In addition, if this school shut down extends to the end of the school year we are working on a prorated or full reimbursement program for payments made, e.g. preschool, athletics, and student activities.

If you need to conduct school business or have a question for the principal of your student(s), email will be the best form of communication as we are moving to a skeleton crew and a work from home model for most of our office staff.

Lastly, in the event that you believe you were exposed to COVID-19 or are not feeling well please contact your private care physician (PCP). If you are tested and the results come back positive, your Board of Health and town Health Agent will be aware and you will be provided with specific instructions.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to listen to daily guidance from state agencies and other institutions. As we learn more we will provide you with information you can use.

Respectfully,

Steven M. Lamarche