

Hartland School
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Mrs. Alissa Goguen
Principal

Mrs. Imma Canelli
Superintendent of Schools

April 8, 2020

Dear Hartland School Community,

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. This has been a very difficult time for all of us and the unknown is very worrisome for everyone. Hopefully all of the measures that have been put in place are working and we will see some positive signs in the near future.

I would like to thank all of you for your support and encouragement during this time and wanted to give you a few updates. I realize families may be inundated with emails right now so I thought I would use an FAQ format to make it a less stressful way to receive information.

How long will this school closure last?

At this time, the Governor has closed all schools until April 20th. The Superintendents have had many calls with the Governor and Commissioner over the last month. This question has been raised on every call. To date, I do not have any “new” updates, however we do have a call scheduled for Thursday with the Commissioner. If we receive new information, I will let you know immediately.

Will we still have April vacation?

Yes. The April vacation originally scheduled on our district calendar will still occur. Therefore, distance learning will be suspended from **Friday, April 10 – Friday, April 17**. Our staff and students have been working incredibly hard and I believe it will be a welcome break for students, families, and staff. What this means in a distance learning environment is that no new assignments will be posted and teachers will not be communicating with students and parents virtually. If you’d like to keep your children engaged during vacation, there are numerous resources and links available on our website under *Remote Learning Resources*.

When is the last day of school?

As you know, the Governor issued a 180-Day Waiver for all school districts due to COVID-19. At our Board of Education meeting last evening, the Board approved a change in the district calendar. We will be meeting the 180-day requirement and our last day of school will be **Friday, June 12th**.

Will we continue to provide meals for students if the closure is extended?

Yes. We will continue to provide meals Monday through Friday during the closure at the designated sites.

If we return to school this academic year, will standardized tests such as Smarter Balanced or NGSS take place?

No. At this time, CSDE Commissioner Dr. Miguel Cardona has requested a waiver allowing the state to suspend all state-mandated student assessments for all grades and subjects, as well as district/school accountability measures.

Will special education services continue during the closure?

Yes. Special education providers will continue to work closely with students and families to optimize continued educational opportunities tailored to their needs to the extent possible. Collaboration and communication will be key as we work through the challenging times.

How will Distance Learning be monitored and adjusted?

We know the initial launch of distance learning may be challenging but the staff has been communicating and collaborating continuously to make adjustments. I am so proud of our teachers and staff for the countless ways they are going above and beyond. Our principal is monitoring all of the classrooms. We sent out a survey last week and we will review the feedback to make adjustments. Please feel free to reach out to our principal or myself if you have any questions or concerns about your child.

There is a document attached to this letter, **Best Practices for Digital Learning**, which has some helpful suggestions for students and families.

Thank you again for your patience and flexibility as we respond to this extremely fluid situation. We know there will be bumps in the road but we are committed to educating our children and will do what we need to achieve that.

Let's continue to do our part to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

Sincerely,

Imma Canelli

Superintendent of Schools

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