

Dr. Darrell J. Lockwood
Superintendent

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March 15, 2020

RE: Letter #6 – Amended Plans for Remote Learning

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The situation with COVID-19 in our state continues to change on a daily basis. The Governor declared earlier today that all public schools will be closed through April 3rd. In addition, the Governor's declaration mandates that all schools will participate in remote learning activities for youngsters. While this declaration lasts through April 3rd, he also indicated that an assessment will be made by state officials prior to that date as to whether or not to extend this period of school closures. We will certainly keep you in the loop moving forward.

The Governor's declaration allows time for schools to take a collective breath and prepare for the move to this extended period of remote learning. While we do feel we could begin in some format tomorrow, we believe that our staff would benefit from more planning time. We also realize that not all families are adequately prepared and that they too could benefit from time to organize for learning at home. Therefore, we will take advantage of this time allowance and take three preparation days (Monday through Wednesday). These days will count as school days, students will not have assignments on these days, and the days will not need to be made up at the end of the school year.

As we stated in a previous correspondence, we would encourage you to create a routine for your children, set up a work space, provide reading materials, take advantage of the sunshine and do some outside activities, etc. This will be especially important during these three days while we prepare. Remote learning assignments will begin on Thursday, March 19, 2020.

We are in the process of outlining plans to assist families with technology and learning materials. We will also attempt to address the needs of our youngsters on free and reduced priced meals. It is our hope that we can provide more information on these topics by tomorrow (Monday) afternoon.

We are appreciative of your continued support and understanding! All questions regarding the impact COVID-19 has on SAU #82 and Chester Academy should continue to be sent to me at lockwoodd@chesteracademy.org. We do recognize the inconvenience and many concerns that this situation is creating. I will continue to respond to your questions in a timely fashion. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Darrell J. Lockwood

Darrell J. Lockwood, Ed.D.