

April 24, 2020



Dear Keeneyville District 20 Families,

We hope that this message finds you well during the challenging circumstances that we are all facing. The spread of COVID-19 has affected so many areas of our daily lives, and we know that families are faced with the overwhelming reality of needing to stay home with their children for an indefinite amount of time. We know that the current situation is likely causing stress, frustration, and confusion for children, and adults. District 20 is working hard to provide a continuity of learning for your children, as well as seeking to support the social, emotional, and mental well-being of our students and families. We have created a new [Family Support Resources](#) web page to provide information and resources that you may find helpful. We will also be hosting a virtual Parent Cafe on Thursday, 5/14 at 6:00pm to provide tips and information on *Keeping Kids Safe Online: Internet Safety*. [Online registration](#) is required to attend the Zoom meeting. ***We are all in this together, and we are grateful for your partnership!***

Thank you to those families who responded to the [D20 Remote Learning Survey for Families](#), which remains open for additional responses. Your feedback is invaluable to us as we navigate remote learning together. We understand that virtual instruction cannot adequately replicate the traditional in-person classroom experience. However, we do want to meet the needs of our students, families, and staff as much as possible. We will continue to review your suggestions and comments, and will be making some modifications to our remote instruction plan as needed. Any changes will go into effect beginning in May, and we will provide more details for you next week.

We do want to let you know now, however, that based on feedback we have decided that we will not have remote instruction on the following Fridays in May: May 8, May 15, and May 22. These days will be used as remote instruction planning days for teachers and “catch-up days” for our students. We hope that this will ease some of the burdens placed on our families.

We will continue to have printed copies of student assignments for those who do not have access to internet at home. You may pick-up the student paper packets on weekdays from 8:00am to 12:00pm (without an appointment) at the District Office, 5540 Arlington Drive E., Hanover Park (Door 4). You may also [submit a request](#) for us to mail you a copy of your student(s) materials.

***All of our school buildings will remain closed until further notice, except for free meal pick-up.*** We will continue to provide meals for children under the age of 18, please see the current [Weekly Meal Schedule](#) for the current pick-up times.

We understand that there are many questions about year-end activities and how students will retrieve items from their desks, lockers, PE lockers, band room, or other locations throughout the schools. We have also received questions about returning library books, textbooks, and other items to the schools. We want to reassure you that we are working through the logistics of these issues and we will share a detailed plan with you as soon as possible. We want to be sure to do this in a safe and orderly fashion that will return items to the students but respect the safety and health of our staff and community members. *Please be assured that we will have a virtual 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony and we are working on creative ways to virtually celebrate other important milestones for our students as well! We will provide details as soon as we can.*

Finally, as we are getting closer to the end of the school year, we wanted to share the [ESD20 ABC Countdown to Summer](#) with our families. We included a place for students to share pictures of your families having fun while at home together. We all need to keep those ESD20 POSITIVE VIBES going strong! Please continue to check our website for important updates and information at <https://www.esd20.org/coronavirus-updates>.

Sincerely,

Dr. Omar Castillo  
Superintendent of Schools  
Keeneyville ESD 20