

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
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Dear Amity Community -

While long anticipated, we now finally have an answer for the remainder of the academic year. Today, Governor Lamont signed into order the cancellation of all school classes for the remainder of the year. Following this announcement, the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) also announced the cancellation of the 2020 spring sports season.

I know that this was not how any of us - students, parents, teachers, or administrators - planned for the 2019-2020 school year to go. I know we were still hanging onto threads of hope that something would give, and we would be able to have a semblance of what we envisioned in September. And while our perspective has changed, there is some solace in having these decisions, because we can now begin to truly plan for the end of the school year - instead of speculating on if/then scenarios.

Over the next couple of weeks, our school teams will be discussing end of year celebrations, planning for materials return and collection, and organizing locker cleanouts. Our staff will be working to close the semester, prepare classrooms for summer cleaning, and organize the materials needed to begin the 2020-2021 school year. Every plan that we make will be shared with the local health department for their recommendations and support. Additionally, all students, parents, and staff will receive a survey mid-month. The valuable feedback that you provide will be used to guide our adjustments and plans in the event we need to transition to off-site learning in the future.

Last night, we also took steps in preparing for 2020-2021 when the Amity Board of Education unanimously approved the budget for next year. With the District budget in place, we can start taking action and making decisions for opening in August.

On today, National Teacher Appreciation Day, I extend my thanks and sincere gratitude to every educator who has continued to improve their instruction, learn new technologies and methods, connect with students and parents, and provide continuity of school and learning. On-site or off-site, our teachers are amazing and essential employees.

Be safe and stay positive Amity - we can do this!

Sincerely,



Jenn Byars