



What a difference a day makes!

October 29, 2020

Dear Students, Families and Staff,

Hybrid School Model

Thank you to the staff, parents, and guardians for taking the time to fill out the recent survey on the timing of the shift to hybrid. The School Committee has scheduled a special meeting on November 2nd to discuss this more. Our original reopening plans have always included moving toward a hybrid learning model as long as it was deemed safe to do so. With Webster being in the red, we did not move to Hybrid on October 19th as planned.

We understand there are many ongoing challenges with remote learning and in all honesty we will face a new set of ongoing challenges with hybrid learning as well. Some of these things we need to be mindful of include:

- the limited number of students we can have in each classroom/cohort while abiding by the social distancing guidance
- the need to reorganize student cohorts at PAE and then reorganizing bus routes
- establishing emergency responses plan when we do not have enough staff to service students on a given day
- ensuring all families have an emergency plan for if and when we face a cluster of COVID cases or staffing shortage

I know we will continue to work as a strong TEAM to solve these and other challenges as we move forward! ☺

Snow Days

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has granted districts to have snow day's count as remote learning days, as long as we can demonstrate that internet service was not interrupted, attendance was taken, and the full day of learning occurred. With the School Committee's approval, it is our intention **to plan for any future snow day to be a full day of remote learning.**

Note: If and when we experience a power outage on a snow day, we will need to apply for a waiver from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and have our teachers have asynchronous work pre-planned. Since this is new to all of us, we are in the beginning stages of planning what a snow day without the internet could look like to count as a full day of learning.

Snow Day Procedures:

Understanding that planning ahead is even more important for everyone this year, we will try to do our best to make snow cancellations/ delay calls the night before. However, as you know we live in New England and sometimes we get surprised and the weather folks are not always right, so there may also be early morning calls.

We use our One Call system to notify when it is necessary to close schools. If you are not on our One Call system, please contact your child's school to be added.

We also post school closures/delays on our school website www.webster-schools.org and on the following TV channels, 4, 5, 7, Fox 25 and NECN 77.

Virtual Parent/Guardian Teacher Conferences

Afternoon parent/guardian teacher conferences are scheduled for the afternoon of November 10th and November 10th is a ½ day of school for students.

Evening parent/guardian teacher conferences are scheduled for November 12th.

There is no school on Veteran's Day, November 11th.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Goguen