



September 10th, 2020

Dear Students and Families,

We are very excited to have the school year finally start!

Our teachers have had some additional planning time this year to prepare for teaching and learning in a new blended learning environment. Everyone is looking forward to working with all of our students and families in new ways. We know that school will be a VERY different this year, but we also know that learning can happen anywhere! **It is essential that we develop a strong level of two-way communication with all students and families, we keep a positive attitude and we remain patient and understanding to the fact that this blended learning environment is NEW for all of us.**

Our teachers have been busy learning new ways to expand their classrooms remotely into your homes. They are learning new ways to present lessons, new ways to collect student work, and new ways to create positive classroom environments in a remote setting. We understand this is also a new experience for our students and families as well, so we anticipate this learning journey will include ups and down, and many questions. We encourage all families to set up a designated learning spot for their child/children that is free from distractions, because students are expected to participate in a full day of learning. Much like school, students need a small designated area (kitchen table, small desk) where they can do their school work. Ongoing and daily communication is going to be essential between teachers, students and their families. It is important to share that we are in the process of expanding our teachers' tool kits to enhance their abilities to bring their classroom into your home (web cameras, document cameras, etc.). It is inevitable that the more we "DO" this new type of teaching and learning, the better we will get at it!

The fact is we are all living through a global health pandemic and we are all doing our best to ensure students continue to learn. We ALL need to remind ourselves, *patience is a virtue*, and it is only through open two-way communication and a willingness to problem-solve that we will all succeed during these different and challenging times.

At this time, we are starting school in a REMOTE LEARNING model and only students in COHORT C are coming into school, while COHORT A and COHORT B students will be working remotely from their homes. **The first day of school for Grades 1-12 is next Tuesday, September 15th and the first day of school for Pre-K and Kindergarten is Monday, September 21st.**



Below you will find important information in preparation for starting school in a Remote Learning model.

Park Avenue – Device/Supply Pick Up

This Friday, September 11th, PAE families can pick up materials for their child/children if they are entering grades 1-4 at the following assigned times:

- Grade 4 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**
- Grade 3 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
- Grade 2 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**
- Grade 1 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

K is scheduled for Sept. 18th at 1:45 p.m.

Your child’s teacher will be at the drive through pick-up station and be able to send a wave to students. Families are asked to enter through Ray Street entrance, stay in your vehicles and pick-up materials. These materials distributed will give specific directions for the first day of school.

The school day for Park Avenue students is 8:35 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.

Every Friday will be a ½ day of school for all elementary school students. Friday afternoons are reserved for teacher planning and family outreach time. The half day time for PAE is 8:35 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Webster Middle School

On Monday September 14th, WMS students will receive a link from their homeroom teachers inviting them to a Zoom session to begin their first day of the school year. The link will be shared with them via Google Classrooms that their teachers have created. Once in their homeroom, teachers will review student schedules, the teachers on the team, and answer questions students may have. During this time, students will receive Zoom links for their other scheduled classes and will use them throughout the day.

As students continue through their day, they will meet their teachers and interact with fellow students. A variety of activities have been planned for the students as they progress through the day and we are looking forward to being reunited with them.

The school day for Webster Middle School students is 7:35 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.

Every Friday will be a ½ day of school for all middle school students. Friday afternoons are reserved for teacher planning and family outreach time. The half day time for WMS is 7:35 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

Bartlett High School

BHS teachers will email their assigned students all required links for participation in 'live' remote instruction this Friday, September 11th. Guidance counselors are still processing add/drop student course requests. Please continuously check your school emails. Anyone not receiving this information by Monday morning, September 14th, should call or email their Guidance counselor, Mr. Thomas or Mrs. Nieves.

The school day for Bartlett High School students is 7:25 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fridays will consist of a half day of synchronous (real time) leaning (7:25 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.) and the afternoons will be asynchronous (not live lessons) for all high school students.

Busing Information

At this time, only Cohort C students will be coming to school and allowed on the bus. Please do not send your child to the bus stop if they have not specifically been invited to attend for in-person learning in Cohort C.

Due to COVID-19, we are not allowing students to ride on buses other than the bus assigned to them this year. All students will be required to wear masks at all times on any bus, and they will be picked up at their designated stop. Bus windows will be kept open and buses will be cleaned daily. Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus at the entrance. Students will be directed to designated seats and only families in the same household will be permitted to sit together.

Food Distribution Centers

Park Avenue and Webster Middle School will reopen their Food Distribution Centers on September 15th. These will be open Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. These are open to any one ages 18 and under (no proof of residency or enrollment required). All meals are free and students do not need to be present at the time of pick up. Each meal will consist of breakfast and lunch. The menu will be posted on the district website later this week.



Virtual Open House Schedule

Park Avenue – September 22nd 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Park Ave. families are invited to our VIRTUAL Open House.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://webster-schools-org.zoom.us/j/97542161146?pwd=d0tiUkxhOUtkRmd6TDd5M3BYVjlqUT09>

Meeting ID: 975 4216 1146

Passcode: 647284

Webster Middle – September 23rd 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Topic: WMS open house

Time: Sep 23, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://webster-schools-org.zoom.us/j/95112661201?pwd=NUYyd05OVXINdkZBdEFUQlRsQmhpQT09>

Meeting ID: 951 1266 1201

Passcode: 740609

Bartlett High School – September 24th 6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://webster-schools-org.zoom.us/j/93879094540?pwd=TUZtUHd1b3NFSk9ZUGdyUWdmNTRGdz09>

Meeting ID: 938 7909 4540

Passcode: 954548

Technology Support

1. Contact your child/children's teacher to problem-solve and he/she will fill out a help-desk ticket, if necessary
2. Contact your child/children's administrator

Important Information Needed

1. All Parents / Guardians need to complete an updated Student Verification Form (mailed home with a stamped self-address returned envelope).
2. All Parent / Guardians need to grant permission to participate in Remote/Hybrid Learning (on each school website)

Resources

1. Noel Foy Video – The Impact of Stress on Learning: Practical Information and Strategies for Parents.
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=1f3b8654b0&attid=0.1.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1677463038378256251&th=17478bbeee62277b&view=att&disp=safe>
2. Southbridge Family Resource Center Parenting Journey meetings – Flyer attached.

We got this! ... Because we are doing it safely and TOGETHER!

Kind Regards,

Ruthann Petrino-Goguen

Dr. Ruthann Petrino-Goguen