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Covid-19 Update 05.05.2020

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>
To: Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>

Tue, May 5, 2020 at 5:02 PM

All,

I am writing to provide you with an update on a few items of importance.

With our schools closed through the end of the 2019-2020 academic year your DCRSD educators have been working on a content map for the remaining weeks of remote learning. The content map is developed in accordance with the progression already made and from guidance provided by the Commissioner of Education.

Using the content map as a guide, educators will continue to provide remote learning opportunities connected to their google classroom pages in grades 2-12 and via a link on our website for Prek-1. The implemented content map and remote learning opportunities is our path forward with the following common expectations.

1. Communicate remote learning in weekly doses
2. Focus on prerequisite content standards that are critical for success at the next grade level
3. Ensure supports and scaffolding are in place for students with disabilities and English learners
4. Prioritize asynchronous lessons vs. synchronous
5. Develop a system for identifying and supporting students not effectively engaged in remote learning, and;
6. Focus on foundational wellness and readiness for all students

What cannot be expressed enough here is that we want to engage and support each and every student. This is daunting as each household has unique circumstances so if you have a question or concern we only ask for communication from you to the teacher or principal of your student(s). We are here to provide what we can while maintaining academic expectations through the end of the school year. Note, the last day of the 2019-2020 school year is Thursday June 18, 2020.

For an additional point of clarity, we are not focused on retention but promotion for the 2020-2021 school year. We do have student engagement expectations to support our focus and will plan accordingly to meet our engaging students where they are. While state submitted attendance for school and district accountability factors concluded as of March 2, 2020, we will measure student engagement through attendance to work and participation in provided remote learning opportunities. Again, if you have any concerns with the aforementioned and how it impacts your student, you should communicate such directly to the teacher or principal of your student.

Next, we have received a number of inquiries to retrieve personal items from the schools. We are tying this opportunity to the Governor's guidance on non-essential businesses and stay at home orders. We will also work with town health agents to ensure safety with access. Therefore, we are developing a plan but will not provide access before May 18, 2020. Please stay tuned.

Our principals and the Director of Finance and Operations is working on a refund program for payments not programmatically realized with the school closure. As an example this would include spring sports. Communications regarding refunds will come in the next week or so from your school principal.

While we continue to process guidance from the state and state agencies we also want to be prepared for any loosening of the mitigating requirements currently in place. This month we will establish a working group to review guidance and develop next steps for our community schools. We will also work closely with the town health agents and Boards of Health.

As this is Teacher Appreciation week, I want to share my admiration and thank the tireless, dedicated DCRSD teachers for their commitment and steadfast effort to evolve teaching and learning remotely for your student(s). DCRSD educators will continue to build opportunities that create memories and a sense of our learning community during the remaining

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weeks of school. Lastly, I want to thank parents, caregivers and families for your role as teacher in support of remote learning for your children. We could not do this alone!

Respectfully,

Steven M. Lamarche