



North Stonington Public Schools

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PETER L. NERO
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DEBORAH MARTIN
BUSINESS MANAGER

March 30, 2020

Dear North Stonington Public Schools families and staff,

"Life has changed" is the most incredible understatement of all time during the COVID-19 pandemic. Every day we hear more news that is very concerning and we look at what is going on in some parts of the country and pray for relief. Situations and events in my life have always made me lean towards the positive no matter how dire it may seem. I have a saying in my home that I like to use in tough situations which is, "It will all work out." When my wife or my son asks me what if it doesn't, I respond, "Then we'll figure it out." I always like to believe that there is a bright side to everything and right now there is a bright side.

If you are asking, "Mr. Nero, what is the bright side?" I will tell you. School was closed over 2 weeks ago. Since that day and until today, there has not been one case reported of students or staff contracting the COVID-19! To me, that's a major bright side. While sheltering in place or being in self-quarantine can bring on its own anxieties, we are safe and free from the virus as long as we continue to follow the Governor's orders and enforce social distance guidelines for however long it takes.

I know that distance learning has brought on new anxieties. It is relatively new, not only to the students but to the teachers and administrators. It can get frustrating as the emails are continuing to flow into your inboxes with directions and assignments. Please keep in mind that the degree of communications from the teachers and administrators will begin to slow down and as time goes on and students and parents will gain some degree of conformability. In addition, you will probably gain a great deal of appreciation for the academic rigor which normally takes place in the classrooms and is now occurring in your home. It will probably take at least another week or two before distance learning will feel relatively normal to you. Please remember, that while you want to help your children, you are not the student, they are and they are responsible for the work.

As a reminder, any student who is need of a breakfast or lunch is welcome to it. You can find the schedule on our website.

As always in this most difficult time, please be safe!

Sincerely,

Peter L. Nero
Superintendent of Schools