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March 29, 2020

Dear Peotone School District Students, Staff and Families,

I hope everyone is healthy and well. Thank you for your patience and positivity during these last two weeks. As of now, we are still working under the premise that schools will remain closed through at least April 7.

Student Learning

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has officially changed the designation of our school days beginning on March 31. As of that date these days are considered Remote Learning Days. These days will count as actual student attendance days and do not have to be made up.

Remote Learning Planning Days

In their guidance, ISBE is granting school districts the ability to schedule five Remote Learning Planning Days. We will utilize the first day on Tuesday, March 31. These days will allow teachers and administrators planning and material development time to support remote learning. On these days, there will be no required interactions between teachers and students.

Should the governor extend school closures, we have planned for the following dates to be Remote Learning Planning Days:

- April 9
- April 24
- May 8
- May 22

On April 1, you will receive an email from your building principal, which will provide a more detailed explanation of what Remote Learning will entail.

Lunch Services

For students who have qualified for free or reduced lunch, services will continue to be provided again on **Monday, March 30**. We will use the same process as we did during our first week off and meals will be a grab and go lunch pickup from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. On Monday, March 30, three days worth of meals will be provided. The same process will be used on **Thursday, April 2** to pick up two meals. We will continue to use this Monday/Thursday pickup schedule to provide meals to qualified students. Please use the access road north of PHS to pick up a meal. We ask that you enter the access road from Rathje Road so we have a consistent traffic pattern for our staff to deliver the meals to you in your car. You will not even need to get out of your vehicle. Please let the staff know whom you are picking up meals for.



Special Services

In an effort to provide continuous learning opportunities to all students, including students eligible for special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the District will provide on-going educational and related services to eligible students.

If your child currently participates in individual or small groupings as documented in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with Special Services Team members (e.g., special education teacher, social worker/counselor, speech and language therapist, occupational therapist, etc.), the District will continue to provide specialized services through various means. This may include videos, telephone calls or the use of an online meeting platform (like Google Hangouts, Meet or Zoom). More information will be forthcoming to each parent from your child's IEP team members directly.

Virtual IEP meetings

At this time, the federal IDEA law does not currently offer flexibility in terms of IEP compliance. With this in mind, we are willing to work with families and staff members in a non-traditional IEP format to do our best to keep IEP's within date compliance. If your child is in need of their annual review IEP meeting or eligibility meeting this school year, district staff will contact parents directly to discuss options for virtual IEP meetings via speakerphone or an online virtual platform.

PHS Graduation

Though I do not have an answer as to what PHS graduation will look like, if the mandated closure continues, rest assured, that at some point we will celebrate the accomplishments of our Seniors.

Sincerely,

Steve Stein