



North Stonington Public Schools

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PETER L. NERO
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

DEBORAH MARTIN
BUSINESS MANAGER

April 6, 2020

Dear parents/guardians,

I want to take a few minutes to provide you with an update. Distance learning and social distancing has proven to be an effective way of fighting COVID-19. We appreciate your understanding during this most difficult time. By just about every news outlet's coverage of the COVID-19, the next two weeks will be the most critical in fighting it and, if proactive steps are not taken, it could be the most deadly of weeks. One report/advisement that I heard today was to not even be in supermarkets or pharmacies. I beg you to continue with your proactive steps.

The district's "essential staff" has been working in order to keep the district's education and business operations running. Central Admin has been working every day to conduct important business such as accounts payable and payroll. Secretaries have been working from home on some days and from school on other days. The custodial staff has been working the day shift every day. We began to wear masks at the end of last week. As much as we try to protect ourselves, it has been very concerning to say the least.

We are at the point where I am directing that we not have any personnel in the buildings during this most critical time. Just as we have not jeopardized the health and welfare of our students, administrators, teachers and paras by employing teaching and learning remotely, we will not be jeopardizing the health of essential staff and our families.

Therefore, at the end of the day today, we will ALL be working remotely from home. That is everyone, central admin, secretaries, custodians, maintenance and technology. That is in addition to administrators, teachers and paras. The only exemption will be a member of food services who will be onsite to provide breakfast and lunch from 11:00-1:00 each day, including the vacation week. We will have a Central Admin presence to facilitate food services for a short period of time each day.

This is a short week with just three-days left until Good Friday. Next week is the vacation week for students, teachers and paras, which may not be a busy week for most during a regular school year; however, Central Office business still needs to be conducted. We are expecting to be working remotely until the end of next week and hopefully returning on Monday, April 20th.

No one is to be in the buildings unless authorized by me and accompanied by me or my designee. We appreciate all the hard work that everyone has done to get distance learning up and running including the technology component by Mr. Pont and Mr. Bryant. Our working remotely for the next three-school days until the vacation may be somewhat of an inconvenience for some needs but I hope that you will understand.

If for any reason you need to contact me, please contact me by email.

As always, please be safe!

Sincerely,
Peter L. Nero

Superintendent of Schools