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Michelle Dutrow, Superintendent

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Greetings:

We have arrived at Week #8 of our school closure. I don't know if you are like me, but I've taken to counting everything: weeks schools been closed, days until I can travel to Texas to see my youngest daughter, days until I can travel again, days since my last haircut, days since my favorite pizza shop closed, and on it goes.

I hope this letter finds your family healthy. We are aware that we do have some cases of the virus in our area and we pray for a full recovery of your loved ones! Now that Clearfield County is anticipating a move to the Phase Yellow at the end of the week, we expect to see folks out and about a bit more. Please remember the importance of social distancing and masks during these outings. Only if we do our part can we effectively see the transition to the Green Phase.

Today's communication is meant to update you on some odds and ends for the final month of school. As always, if you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's Principal for assistance.

1. Instruction – we will be continuing with our remote learning through Friday, May 22nd. If you need to switch either from packets to online or vice versa, you need to reach out to us so we can accommodate your request. Our teachers should be reaching out to you to touch base periodically. If you require more frequent contacts, please be sure to ask your child's teacher for those additional emails or telephone calls.

The last Elementary packet was delivered this past Friday afternoon. This packet included the school assignments for our final three weeks of school. If you did not pick that packet up during the bus run on Friday, your child's packet can be found in the grade level tub on the portico outside the Elementary main entrance. You should stop by to pick up the packet this week.

Middle School and High School assignments will continue to be posted each week. If you are receiving a packet for your child, you may find your child's packet in the grade level tub on the portico outside the Elementary main entrance. The packet will be there as of Tuesday morning and should be picked up as soon as is possible.

Again, I strongly encourage you to have your child complete as many assignments as is possible, given your circumstances at home. As I previously shared, your child will be better prepared to return to school in the fall and be ready to pick up where we end this school year. We know this is not an easy request, but we ask you to hang in there with us for just three more weeks. That is only 15 more days of schoolwork!

2. End-of-School Activities: We are working on a number of special activities and surprises for our last two weeks of school after we shut down instruction. All these activities will be strictly voluntary, but our goal is to give our students some things to look forward to that, in some respect, reflect our usual end-of-year "fun". More information will be provided on these activities as we get closer to the end of May.
3. Feeding Program: We are planning to continue our current feeding program through the last day of school on June 5th. At that time, we have the YMCA taking over with their regular summer lunch program, albeit in a drive-thru arrangement. We are not sure what additional meals might be available

after that date but will keep you posted as we hear from our state officials. If there is something more we are expected or needed to do, we will explore our options and provide the service.

4. Lockers/Desks/School Property: Each grade level will be assigned a day after we close instruction on May 22nd to return school property and retrieve personal belongings. Students will be able to report to the school during assigned times for this purpose. We will handle everything at that time: textbooks, laptops, library books, instruments, uniforms, desks, lockers, medication, etc. Anyone coming to the building will be required to adhere to all CDC regulations including social distancing and masks.
5. Graduation: As was previously shared with our seniors, we are planning several events/surprises to celebrate this important accomplishment. A separate letter will be mailed to the parents and graduates later this week with more detailed information.
6. Summer Programming: At this time, we expect to be fully closed through June 30th as per earlier directives from several state agencies. This may be extended into July as required. Our reopening for summer programming will also be guided by our status in the Yellow or Green Phase, as well as any further directives from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). This includes district athletics, summer school, summer library, summer marching band, summer driver's education, Extended School Year, Wee Warriors, and School-Based. In addition, this includes the use of our property, both owned and leased, for community events. As legally required, remote opportunities will be provided for some activities.

I will be back in touch within the next week or so. Until then, be safe and stay healthy!

Michelle Dutrow