



BOTELLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

128 Greenwoods Road E
Norfolk CT 06058

LAUREN VALENTINO, PRINCIPAL

March 13, 2020

Dear Botelle Families,

You and your children surely have many feelings about the news you received last night about school will be closed for the next two weeks. This was very unexpected for us all. The purpose of this letter is to communicate what we know currently and how we are hoping to support you and your children these next two weeks.

The dates that school will be closed are Friday, March 13 through Thursday, March 26. These days will be treated like snow days and they will be made up, perhaps during Spring Break and/or in June. If the closure is extended beyond these two weeks, make up days will not exceed June 30. All school events are cancelled while we are closed with the goal of rescheduling if possible.

Teachers and staff reported to school today. We discussed ways for students to maintain the skills they have learned. In keeping with the guidance from the Commissioner of Education, we will not transition to an on-line learning protocol during this two-week period. However, we want students to stay engaged in their learning while we are not in school.

To that end, staff collaborated to create work packets and organize materials for students. Each student's strengths, needs and interests were taken into consideration in the selection and design of these materials. These materials are intended to reinforce previously taught skills, extend the learning they have been currently working on in class and be fun. I am very proud of our staff and the efforts they took today to support students' learning.

These materials, along with progress reports and Chromebooks and instruments for students in grades 3-6, are available to be picked up on Monday and Tuesday after 10am. If you are unable to pick up these materials for any reason, please contact us and arrangements can be made to get these materials to you.

We will miss our students and plan to stay in touch. Teachers are available through Class Dojo and email to answer questions you might have. Office and administrative staff will be available via phone and email. Custodial staff will continue cleaning and disinfecting surfaces in preparation for the opening of school.

As we get more information, we will share it with you. Thank you for your understanding as we make decisions for the health and safety of our students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Beth Iacobelli, Superintendent

Mrs. Lauren Valentino, Principal