



June 15, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your collaboration and understanding as we have navigated the COVID-19 school closure. As we complete the last week of the 2020 school year, we have a few updates as we look forward to the summer and the opening of school in September. Overall, guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Public Health will continue to evolve throughout the summer.

We are working closely with the Town in trying to establish a budget for next year. State and Town budgets are unclear due to revenue collections and have not been set. Currently there is a hiring freeze. The replacement of all retirements and resignations is a priority. This will remain unknown until we are able to have Town Meeting on July 7th.

Due to the unknowns regarding the opening of school, here are some updates:

Elementary Class Assignments: Elementary classroom teacher assignments will not be provided until we fully understand the structure of the day and our personnel.

Course Schedules: Course schedules for grades 6-12 will not be shared until we understand the structure of the day and our personnel.

Task Force: We will be developing a team of people from many departments to examine the guidance we are provided from the state. We will then communicate the guidance to families as appropriate. Please be aware that the guidance we receive may change. This will remain a fluid situation.

Surveys: The Norwell parent and guardian surveys for **distance learning** and **back to school** are linked below. We are using an educational survey company, Panorama, to help us gather information from parents and guardians, students grades 3-12, and staff. Please click the link of the school your child attends and complete the survey. You may complete a survey for each child. These surveys are anonymous and will help us plan for next year and address remote learning (if needed). This information will also help us refine questions to ask over the summer once we have received guidance for opening. Please participate in these surveys to help us plan. Grades 3-5 elementary parents and guardians will receive information from their principals in order to help their children take the student survey. Students

in grades 6-12 will receive the survey from their principals. Please encourage your child to take his/her survey when they receive it. Please submit the survey by Friday, June 19th.

Cole Elementary School <> <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/norwelldistrict/5565031282/surveys>

Norwell High School <> <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/norwelldistrict/8913117077/surveys>

Norwell Middle School <> <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/norwelldistrict/7091841842/surveys>

Vinal Elementary School <> <https://surveys.panoramaed.com/norwelldistrict/3774624473/surveys>

Summer Special Education Services: These services will be primarily remote with opportunities for in person beginning the week of July 27th for students who are transitioning between buildings.

Summer Food Service: Norwell Food Service will continue serving students throughout the summer for pickup at the Norwell Middle School. All meals will be free. To receive meals contact Judy Crooks at judith.crooks@norwellschools.org.

iPads: If your family has a school-issued iPad, please hold onto the iPad until you are notified to bring them in at some point later in the summer or at the beginning of the school year.

Schoology Training K-12 Parents: We will be offering some training sessions for parents on our Learning Management System, Schoology. We will communicate more once these sessions are established in August.

Summer Contact Information: Please let us know if your summer contact information changes. We will be communicating often throughout the summer. Please check your email for updates throughout the summer.

We are well aware that you will be receiving an overabundance of information from many sources about various requirements to open schools in the fall. Information regarding procedures in Norwell will be directly communicated from the district. Please be patient as we thoughtfully prepare for next year.

Sincerely,



Matthew A. Keegan
Superintendent of Schools