

## FOXBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Amy A. Berdos, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

April 3, 2020

Dear Foxborough Families,

As we complete our third week of school closure, and as shared at School Committee on Monday night, I am incredibly proud of our administrators, staff, students, and families. The amount of work taking place among teachers and at home cannot be understated. We know how hard families are working during this challenging time. The collaboration among teachers, students, and families exemplifies our strong and caring Foxborough community. I have heard directly from parents about the positive impact of teachers and support providers who have reached out to support the social-emotional needs and check in on the physical well-being of students.

I would like to reinforce some of the information shared about our remote learning plans during this past Monday night's School Committee meeting. Our top priority is always the safety and health of our students, especially during this unsettling and challenging time. We understand how this unprecedented health crisis is causing stress on families as we also feel it at home. This stress makes it untenable for some to focus on student academics. At the same time, we recognize some families are looking for more academic opportunities. A seemingly endless list of expectations, schedules, and grade levels to absorb at home is more than any family should ever expect to take on alone. Our goal is to keep it as simple as possible, set realistic expectations, and meet the needs of many learners. Meeting the needs of all learners is that much more difficult from afar. What is most important is that our students feel safe and connected to their teachers and the school community during this very confusing and uncertain time.

The remote learning environment is new for everyone and as result we are asking for flexibility from teachers, students and families. As a school community we will continue to seek your feedback and make adjustments that will hopefully result in improvements each week. We know that what is most important on your end is your role as parent and caregiver, not teacher, and we thank you for all that you are doing at home. Every family is different and we know that everyone is doing their best. We continue to receive a stream of steady feedback and all of it has been valuable. How we handle this unprecedented time with our students is what matters most.

Earlier this week, we suspended live video and audio conferencing meetings using Zoom. This action caused disappointment for students and teachers. Please know that our team is working to reintroduce these opportunities in the safest way possible for our students. We are here to support you and will get through this together. We will continue to seek your feedback, listen, and make adjustments as we move forward.

Sincerely,

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Amy A. Berdos, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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