



"Learning....a voyage for a lifetime"

HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 90

7 Scott Road, Hampton, NH 03842
Phone 603.926.4560 • Fax 603.926.5070

KATHLEEN A. MURPHY
Superintendent of Schools

JESSICA L. PARSONS
Director of Student Services

MARIAH B. CURTIS
Director of Finance

April 2, 2020

Dear SAU 90 Families and Staff:

I am writing to provide you with updates regarding COVID-19 and the impact it has on our school routines and community. I would like to review several important aspects for students, parents, educators and support staff; remote learning expectations, school calendar, specialized instruction, and social and emotional needs.

REMOTE LEARNING

SAU 90 teachers and support staff have completed 11 days of remote instruction. The work that our educators have done in responding to the state's move to remote learning has been remarkable. We are also very appreciative of the families in assisting us in this work and helping us to balance the demands of school, while you address your own family needs.

We now know that Governor Sununu has extended the remote learning initiative until Monday May 4, 2020. With this in mind, I would like to offer guidelines that we have considered as we put the remote learning program into place.

- The focus is on the essential components in learning for students
- The need to be flexible and ready to change it up when needed
- Even with the incredible effort by our educators, remote learning does not replace or replicate the learning that occurs each day in our schools.
- We understand that exceptions rule each day and we are all facing unique times.

The learning taking place requires using many methods and deliveries including on-line instruction, google classroom, applications that reinforce skills and paper and pencil activities, projects and reading lists. Staff have reached out via phone calls, video connections and email. Teachers and staff connecting with students, is and will continue to be our priority.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Today I am proposing to the Hampton School Board a calendar that will reflect the needs of the district's students, families and staff if the remote learning is extended through the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

The calendar will provide continuous opportunities for students through remote learning on Monday through Thursday (four days) each week beginning this week, April 3, 2020 through May 15, 2020. Teachers will utilize Fridays through May 15 to work on family contacts, planning, preparation, learning new technology skills or to attend to tasks that arise from the remote learning program. This schedule will continue through what would have been the traditional April vacation.



"Learning....a voyage for a lifetime"

HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 90

7 Scott Road, Hampton, NH 03842
Phone 603.926.4560 • Fax 603.926.5070

KATHLEEN A. MURPHY
Superintendent of Schools

JESSICA L. PARSONS
Director of Student Services

MARIAH B. CURTIS
Director of Finance

If the closure remains in place, remote instruction will continue for students until June 4. Our educators would then have four days for finalizing grades and attending to end of the year issues such as vertical teaming, placement for 2020-2021 and completing curriculum maps assessing student mastery of competencies and end of the year reports. The final day for teachers would be Wednesday, June 10, 2020.

In creating this calendar, I have partnered with SAU 21 who have recently approved the proposal. In addition, I have collaborated with the Seacoast Education Association and the Paraprofessional Association. I am very grateful for their support during the development of the calendar.

A complete and finalized calendar will be available on our district website www.sau90.org after the Hampton School Board meets on Thursday (4/2/2020) afternoon.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Student Services is making reasonable efforts to ensure students have access to student services and IEP services. Services will be provided through Remote Learning and Remote Support as well as direct communication with families.

- **Remote Learning Goal:** Provide direct services to students in whole class, small group, or individualized formats including related services such as Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Counseling, and Behavior Support. Frequency will be determined as appropriate given circumstances.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL NEEDS

In trying times like these, our job as adults and caregivers is to focus on the things that are within our control. Although stress and anxiety can be running high right now, we have the power to increase our children's sense of safety; the belief that your needs (or your child's needs) and the ones that you care about will be met. We must also instill in our children that there is still hope, and that it is important that the expectation that everything will be alright and believing that everything will work out remains true. Reframing a scary time for kids is important in giving them the control to feel like everything will be okay and we are all just doing our part as a caring and loving community.

SAU 90 has been working with our educators to make sure that, although we are joined together remotely, we are focused on supporting one another, staying connected, and reflecting on the positive things we can do each day.



"Learning....a voyage for a lifetime"

HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 90

7 Scott Road, Hampton, NH 03842
Phone 603.926.4560 • Fax 603.926.5070

KATHLEEN A. MURPHY
Superintendent of Schools

JESSICA L. PARSONS
Director of Student Services

MARIAH B. CURTIS
Director of Finance

Tips for Parents:

- Try and limit the amount of TV News that your children see/hear
- Talk to your kids about what is going on in age appropriate ways
- Look for resources to pass the time (while not online learning!)
- Reach out to your child's teacher or counselor if you have questions or concerns
- Be understanding that children are upset and acknowledge those feelings. They are missing friends, sports, activities, etc.

Resources to Check out:

Talking to your Kids about COVID-19, Dealing with YOUR stress and anxiety, Children's Activities, etc.

- CASEL <https://casel.org/covid-resources/>
- National Child Trauma Stress Network
<https://www.nctsn.org/resources/parent-caregiver-guide-to-helping-families-cope-with-the-coronavirus-disease-2019>
- Lynn Lyons, Psychotherapist Concord, NH discusses ways to stay mentally healthy during COVID-19
<https://www.wmur.com/article/new-hampshire-psychotherapist-discusses-effects-of-coronavirus-crisis-on-anxiety-levels/31958219>

If at any point, your child (or you) become overwhelmed, please reach out to their school counselor or the school social worker.

HA: Angela Bowen (abowen@sau90.org) and Brooke Bassett (bbassett@sau90.org)

Marston: Susan Antico (santico@sau90.org)

Centre: Samantha Connell (sconnell@sau90.org)

District: Janine Richards (jrichards@sau90.org)

Also, as a reminder, our district is offering free breakfast and lunch (regardless of Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility) as a pick up or delivery. We are also happy to help with internet connection and technology needs too!



"Learning....a voyage for a lifetime"

HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT 90

7 Scott Road, Hampton, NH 03842
Phone 603.926.4560 • Fax 603.926.5070

KATHLEEN A. MURPHY
Superintendent of Schools

JESSICA L. PARSONS
Director of Student Services

MARIAH B. CURTIS
Director of Finance

https://www.sau90.org/useful_resources/news/what_s_new/school_breakfast_lunch_during_school_closure

We want to be certain that all of our students and families are receiving the support needed during this unprecedented crisis. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or principal with any school related matter and feel free to contact me at kmurphy@sau90.org.

Take care.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Murphy
Superintendent of Schools