

# Wayland-Cohocton Central School

**MISSION: To ensure high levels of learning for all students.**

**VISION: To continuously develop our capacity to function as a collaborative culture.**



***Excellence Starts Here!***

March 23, 2020

Dear Wayland-Cohocton Families and Community:

I'm sure that you can agree that this past week has been indescribable. It's hard to comprehend that so much could happen in a short period of time. I know that it has taken me some time to negotiate and come to terms with our current circumstances. I also hope that you know that it is normal to experience anxiety and worry. I read an article this weekend that said, "it's ok to not be ok", but if you need help don't be afraid to reach out and ask.

Our main priorities last week were to mobilize for food stability for our families and within the community, to allow our staff time to stabilize their families and when able, to support neighbors and friends, and to gather resources and prepare for the next steps. If you know someone in need of something, anything, (meals, daycare, help with wifi) please reach out and let someone know. We will do whatever we can to help. As we continue with the delivery of meals this week, we ask that for the safety of the individuals delivering and our bus drivers, that you remain inside while we are at your residence. This is an effort to avoid physically transferring the bags and making accidental contact. Some families have placed chairs, stools, boxes or laundry baskets on their porch or deck for us to place the bags in or on... this has been very helpful. Please consider doing something similar to help keep you and us safe. Distribution sites are still open in the villages of Wayland and Cohocton on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00am.

Please know that I firmly believe and have relayed the message to our administrators and staff, that our top priority right now is the well being of our students, families and staff. These are confusing and unsettling times and there are many unanswered questions. We must take care of each other first and learning will come later. In the weeks ahead, we will continue to work with you to ensure that our students are provided with the best education possible under the circumstances, but people first! Please do not stress over the academic work right now. We will work through this together as a team. Our faculty and staff will be reaching out to you this week through phone calls, so if you see an unfamiliar or restricted number it could very well be someone from the school.

We did learn on Friday, that the administrations of the 2020 elementary- and intermediate-level State assessments have been suspended for the remainder of this

school year. This suspension for the remainder of the school year applies to the following New York State testing programs:

- New York State Grades 3-8 English Language Arts Test;
- New York State Grades 3-8 Mathematics Test;
- New York State Grade 4 Elementary-Level Science Test;
- New York State Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science Test;
- New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) in Grades K-12; and
- New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) for students with severe cognitive disabilities in Grades 3-8 and high school.

Later today, we will be posting to the WCCS website, a document that addresses 'Frequently Asked Questions' and a 'Resource Guide' for your easy reference.

It is important that we stay connected and focus on the things that we can control. Right now people and families are the priority. I will continue to do my best to keep you in the loop. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to reach out.

With care and respect,

Eileen M. Feinman  
Superintendent of Schools