

## Dr. Rick Cobb Superintendent

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Thursday, March 26, 2020

Mid-Del Community,

As you have probably heard, yesterday the State Board of Education (SBE) voted to approve a Continuous Learning Plan, directing all Oklahoma public schools to complete the school year while keeping all school buildings closed.

Since then, at the state's request, we sent out a survey to our families about technology and connectivity capabilities. We will turn that information into the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) tonight. Then, tomorrow morning, OSDE will release a framework for continuous learning. The expectation then will be for us to have our own continuous learning plan in place and submitted to them by Monday, April 6. That gives us ten days to review what they have constructed and adapt it to fit our community.

Please understand that Mid-Del will not expect every student to be able to work on a computer, tablet, or phone. We expect that the state's plan will consist of both online and offline learning opportunities. We want to make each available to our students. We are going to develop our plan with your digital access in mind.

At this time, we are still awaiting guidance from OSDE about the distribution, collection, and grading of educational materials. Regardless of our ability to collect and grade work, we want students to have the ability to keep practicing the skills they have already learned in school. We know that more time away from learning means more time catching up. Participation in the continuous learning plan gives students a better chance of entering the 2020-21 school year prepared.

I ask for your patience and understanding as we work through the logistics of this situation. During the coming months, our students, their families, our staff, and the community will all be asked to function outside of their comfort zones. Our first priority is keeping everybody safe. We also want to keep feeding students, which is why we will add three more locations for grab-and-go meals next week (Barnes Elementary, Steed Elementary, and Tinker Elementary).

This is a developing situation. As soon as we have information available about the Continuous Learning Plan and how we intend to implement it, we will let you know. The same goes for decisions about everything from Pre-K Round Up to alternative plans for graduation. We know that there are many moving pieces to this, an incredible number of questions, and significant concern about moving forward.

Hopefully, each coming day will bring us more clarity. We live and work in a generous community, and we have the most dedicated teaching and support professionals in public education. As tough as these times are, we have no choice but to move forward.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.