March 31, 2020

Dear CCS Family Members,

In many ways, we could not have possibly been prepared for the work we find ourselves in lately. The ways in which we’ve been asked to provide instruction, child care, and meals to students and families has been a great learning experience for everyone. I hope this communication finds you all well it will give you information specific to our plans to continue “instruction” for the weeks of school closure ahead.

Our teachers and instructional leadership team, which includes our principals, have prepared the next round of “instruction”. All students, K-12, will receive new CCS Supplemental Learning Packets this week, and these will constitute “instruction” for the period of extended school closure through April 14 and beyond, should school closure be extended past that date. The Governor requires schools to continue “instruction” in our current capacity and in its various forms throughout the scheduled period of April break (April 3 through April 13).

- New “paper and pencil” supplemental learning packets will be available to pick up on Thursday, April 2 at the Elementary School bus circle for K-6 students, and the Junior-Senior High School bus circle for 7-12 students between 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- As each family picks up the new supplemental learning packets, please be sure to return the first learning packet that was given to you for your child on March 13 (JSHS) or March 16 (ES).

To the extent possible learning packets will offer differentiation for students at different learning levels, abilities, and with appropriate supports. Each principal has prepared a letter that will include important information our families will need to know, and more detail for the Academic Continuity Plan will be included. At this time, appropriate and realistic emphasis is placed on online instruction and electronic teacher-to-student connections, as you will read in the Academic Continuity Plan. Please do read this plan, as it contains important information that you should know.

I want to continue to encourage families needing meals to call Melissa Rathbun at 547-2820. Meals at this time are no cost and fully reimbursable to the district for our students. If you are an essential worker, as defined by Governor Cuomo’s March 7, 2020 executive order who may be in dire need of child care during school closure, please contact David Bertram at 547-8181. We may be able to help.

While our district’s campus parking lots have good Wi-Fi for our families to access, there are also a number of Spectrum “hot spots” throughout the district – we will be posting those soon to our website. You can also click the link at https://www.spectrum.com/free-wifi-hotspots/new-york/otsego-county for more information. We are continuing to work to provide resources to help families without access to a reliable internet connection to connect online.

As we move into a new month, please heed the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and our Department of Health. Stay home, if possible, maintain social distancing, and do wash your hands frequently. We will be in touch again when there is new information to communicate.

Yours Very Truly,

Dr. C