

WATERTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 14-4

Superintendent Office P.O. Box 730 Watertown, SD 57201-0730 (605) 882-6312

Dr. Jeff Danielsen Superintendent Jeff.Danielsen@k12.sd.us

April 3, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Thank you for your patience with us, as we work through this new model for learning. Our staff is doing the doing the best they can under the circumstances. We also know that you are doing your best under trying circumstances. Please know that we care about our families, the children and adults, as we all struggle to adjust to the unknown of COVID-19.

We will have another materials exchange at all buildings on Monday, April 6th from 8:00 AM- 5:00 PM. To help us limit the paper exchange, please do what you can to get online. We would like to do as much electronically as possible. Please start with your child's teacher if you need help, and they can refer you on to the appropriate channel if they are unable to solve your issue.

We will continue to serve lunch at the 5 Elementary School sites along with the Intermediate School. This has been going well, and we are happy to be able to provide this service. Please remember that all children in the district ages 3-18 are eligible to receive the free lunch and a breakfast pack each day. Please do not come to school to pick up meals or materials if you or a member of your household is sick.

We have established a page off the main Watertown website, <u>watertown.k12.sd.us</u>. Look for the link called **COVID-19 Resources** off the Explore page. On this page, you will find copies of notifications that have been sent, information about instruction, meals, and free Internet options available for families.

Also on our school website link, you can find information about free access to the Internet during this time off of school. Should you need to have access during this time, check out these resources to apply. We will continue to communicate with families through our current means of texting, emailing, and calls. We do utilize the information you have provided us in Infinite Campus to contact you. Should there be updates to any of this information, please contact the district office at 605-882-6312.

To get updated information regarding the COVID-19 virus, we would recommend the following Websites: COVID-19 Site: covid.sd.gov, South Dakota Department of Health: www.doh.sd.gov, or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov.

I want to clear up one misconception about our school days. The state has waived the "seat time" hourly requirements for schools, but we are continuing to maintain our school calendar as published to keep educating students. This means that Friday, April 10th and Monday, April 13th will not be flexible learning, as they were scheduled days off.

Please note that all activities, practices and travel have been postponed until further notice. We will begin to update event-specific details as we have them decided. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children and schools healthy!

Dr. Jeff Danielsen Superintendent

Sincerely