



Sharon City School District

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 21, 2020

Dear Sharon Parents & Guardians,

On behalf of the Board of Education and the staff of the Sharon City School District, I want to once again take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during this unprecedented crisis. While the situation has currently stabilized somewhat, we are still working hard to follow all recommended guidelines and to ensure that your children are provided a quality education despite the turmoil surrounding us. Please review the following updates regarding our current status:

1. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has made no determination with regard to the plan for the Fall of 2020. **Please disregard and more importantly, do not share information from social media or rumors you may hear** regarding plans for school in the Fall. We are working on a variety of back-to-school plans at this point and will be including feedback from our families and staff BEFORE any decision is made. I promise you that our families will be the first to know of any decision once one is made.
2. We are continuing our meal program that provides a grab-and-go lunch along with breakfast each Monday to Friday through Thursday, June 4th from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm. No meals will be served on Friday, June 5th so that we can prepare for our summer meal program which will begin on Monday June 8th. Information regarding the summer lunch program will be released shortly. Meals are available to all Sharon residents ages 18 and younger. There is no charge for the meals.
3. The District will be collecting the final packets from all students during the next two weeks. General information is listed below with more specific information to come from your building principals. We will include packet #3 drop-off with locker/desk clean out. Prior to the final drop-off, **students should give all of the material their best effort**. Please do not stress over the work.

Packet Drop Off #3 and Locker/Desk Clean Out (*masks and gloves will be provided for anyone entering the buildings and regular cleaning of accessed areas will be completed*)

Students who have any District materials, textbooks, musical instruments, etc., or who owe library books or have outstanding cafeteria balances should use this opportunity to return them at this time and/or settle your accounts. Any materials returned should be marked with the child's name, grade, and teacher.

- **Seniors:** Thursday, May 21, 2020, 8:00 am-3:00 pm – packet turn in, locker clean out, and cap/gown pickup
- **Grades 7 & 9:** Thursday, May 28, 2020, 8:00 am-4:00 pm – packet turn in and locker clean out
- **Grades 8 & 10:** Friday, May 29, 2020, 8:00 am-3:00 pm – packet turn in and locker clean out
- **Grade 11:** Friday, May 29, 2020, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm – packet turn in and locker clean out
- **Elementary Schools:** May 28, 2020 and May 29, 2020, 9:00-11:00 am and 2:00-4:00 pm each day – packet turn in and materials pickup by parents. Materials will be bagged, tagged and made available for pickup.

*Any Middle/High School student athlete who has District-owned uniforms or equipment must turn it in on their date as well. These items will be collected in the main office.

4. **Materials Grading and Evaluation.** Our teachers have been busy reviewing the work that your children have done, and will continue to do so through the end of the official school year. We will be using a **P** (pass) and **NC** (no credit) scoring system for students in Quarter 4. This format will recognize students who put forth their "best effort" in packet/online completion and the quality of work. All students who have completed work to their "best effort" are to be graded as a P (pass). The NC (no credit) grade will be used only for those children who made no effort to return packets or complete work.

Quarter 4 report cards will be mailed in the middle of June. We will post the mailing date on our website to ensure that all families know when to expect report cards.

5. **Summer programs.** The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the adjustment of summer programs in the District. Please note the following:

- The Success by Six pre-K program will not be held
- All current Kindergarten students will be enrolled in a summer literacy program
- The summer READ program for students currently in grades 2-4 will operate (information to follow)
- The summer C.O.O.L. program will operate for current 4-8 grade students (information to follow)
- The summer Camp K.I.D.S. program will not be held, instead all current 4th and 5th grade students will be invited to participate in a mail-based program
- Summer recreation programs (summer movies and carnival) have been cancelled

Information about these programs will be made available on our website.

6. The District website (www.sharonsd.org) continues to be the best means of up-to-date information. Please review it often during this shutdown and throughout the summer. We will continue to add links to the website to a variety of free, online web resources that you and your children can use to keep their brains engaged. As you can imagine, many questions arise as we work through this pandemic. We are answering most of these questions through our website, via email, and on our social media sites. Do not forget that you can also access all information through the Sharon City School District app that can be found on Google Play or in the App Store.
7. We know that many children (and adults) are having a difficult time adjusting to the changes we have experienced. If you have not had the chance to review the elementary guidance staff's website, please do so as it contains many links that you will find helpful for your children (and for adults as well). You can access it through the website or at this link: <https://sites.google.com/sharonsd.org/elementary-guidance/home> Feel free to share this link with family and friends.
8. **Graduation.** We will be conducting a "blended" commencement program for the Class of 2020. While we have held out hope for a traditional ceremony, we have decided that it is in the best interest of the safety of our students and their families to conduct a ceremony that will include videotaped Valedictorian and Salutatorian speeches, in-person presentation of diplomas, and an opportunity for cap and gown photos. We will be including a portion of our recognition program as a part of this event as well. Specific information will be offered to both students and parents soon.

In closing, please know that we in the Sharon City School District take this pandemic very seriously. We are following all safety protocols and will continue to do so until a vaccine or cure is found. I also want to once again offer thanks our parents who are first responders and essential workers – you are in our thoughts and prayers daily. Remember we are always **#SharonStrong!**

Sincerely,



Michael J. Calla
Superintendent