



OXFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Sailing Towards Success”

April 14, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this weekly email finds you and your family healthy and well. As you are aware, we have moved into the next stage of distance learning after the Governor continued to extend the closure of all school districts until May 4th. To that end the District Administrative Team, in collaborations with the Union President and teaching staff have developed a Phase 2 Remote Learning Plan. This Plan engages students differently in deeper learning experiences and provides opportunities for students to show their understanding of academic material. Please take the time to review the District’s Remote Learning Plan which I have included as well as your child’s/children’s specific school plan.

This morning you should have received a District message that the School Committee voted last evening to continue schooling during April vacation week, Tuesday, April 21st - Friday, April 24th. This means that the momentum, continuity, and structure created in Phase 2 will continue uninterrupted. In addition, with the elimination of April vacation week, the last day of school will now be June 15th.

Additionally, the Commissioner has suspended MCAS exams for this year in all tested grades. As of this date, the Commissioner has not rendered a decision to exempt seniors who have not met the state’s competency determination for graduation by passing MCAS exams in English, Mathematics, and Science.

I also wanted to provide you with some information on our Term 3 grading plan as the term was interrupted with school closure in mid-March. First, Term 3 has been extended by a few days to include Phase 1 learning which ended on April 7th. Students at the Middle and High Schools will receive a grade for Term 3 and Elementary School students will continue to receive a Term 3 report using the same standards-based grading system as used for previous terms. Parents and students will be receiving more specific details from Principals and teachers next week. We anticipate that Term 3 report cards will be available May 4th.

Finally, I want to encourage you again to reach out to your child’s Teacher, Principal, or any Oxford educator when you have a question, need help, or if you are overwhelmed. This is new for all of us, and while as educators we want to continue to educate your children no matter where they are, we also realize that as parents or guardians you are often juggling many other responsibilities in addition to supporting your child’s education while at home. When you are stressed, we need to hear from you so we can make adjustments or provide support. After all is said and done with this terrible pandemic, we will arise from this different in many ways, but also the same in our values about what is really important, the well-being of all.

With warmest wishes,

Kristine E. Nash

Kristine E. Nash, Ed.D., Acting Superintendent

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