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March 13, 2020

Dear Canterbury Public Schools Families,

We are writing to provide an update on the rapidly changing COVID 19 situation in our country. At this time, with an abundance of caution, the Canterbury Public School District will be closed starting Monday, March 16th, 2020. As we are assessing the situation closely, we are not providing a specific date of when we will re-open at this time; however, families will have significant notice before school begins again. It is important to note that as of today there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Canterbury or in Eastern Connecticut. We will closely monitor information on a daily basis and will provide regular updates regarding the status of the school closing. Please consult with your individual high schools for additional information.

Please know that this decision has not been made lightly, and is based on what we understand to be in the best interest of our students, staff, and our broader community. While we do not plan to provide online learning as an alternative to in-person instruction at this time for our students, our teachers will provide supplemental enrichment materials for families to access from home. Instructional packets will be sent home with CES students today. Baldwin Middle School packets will be available for online access this afternoon or can be picked up at the school on Monday. In addition, some middle school work may be posted in online formats, such as Google Classroom. For DHBMS families who are unable to pick up the enrichment packets, you can email the school at jsmith@canterburypublicschools.org to arrange for packets to be mailed home.

Food and nutrition are important aspects of our community. Therefore, Baldwin Middle School will be open to provide all Canterbury students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch with daily meals from March 16 until school re-opens. A message with specific procedures will be sent out to families by the end of the weekend.

We thank you for your patience and understanding, and we understand that this may be a difficult time for you and your children.

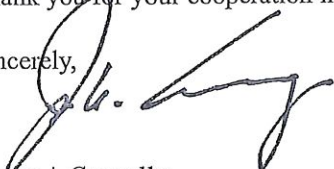
You can find more information about coronavirus on the following websites:


www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html


www.nddh.org www.who.int


Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children and our schools healthy.

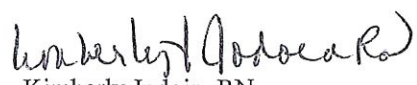
Sincerely,


James A Connelly
Interim Superintendent of Schools


Sarah Cary
CES Principal


Garrett Dukette
BMS Principal


Cassie Stimson, RN
CES School Nurse


Kimberly Jodoin, RN
BMS School Nurse/School Nurse Supervisor