

East Haddam Public Schools

Brian S. Reas, Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Families and Staff,

Thank you for all of your patience and cooperation. While we have had our ups and downs along the way, I believe that by working together as a community we have significantly diminished the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on our students. It is clear to me that the strength of community has shown through during these difficult times.

Please know that we are still learning how to do this distance-learning thing. Every day our dedicated teams of educators have reflected on feedback, adapted, and adjusted our plans. Your input, questions, and ideas are critical to the success for students. Please continue these conversations. We will be offering another survey next Friday to encourage you in this process.

I am aware that there have been many conversations about April break. The decision was made to cancel April break in order to provide students with 180 days of instruction while maintaining a last day of school of June 16th. Looking at the pandemic numbers, it appears that next week will be one of the most important weeks for social distancing in Connecticut. Having schoolwork, continued routines and interactions to complete should support in social distancing efforts. We will continue to have the 'catch up' day on Fridays which also supports our teachers to work through all of the tasks that cannot be done while facilitating the online learning.

Many of you heard the news yesterday that Governor Lamont has extended the school distance learning time until at least May 20th. We will continue to offer distance-learning through this time.

The College Board is still working on a solution to provide the SAT test that students had anticipated taking in March. We will communicate with you when we hear more information.

We continue to see a rise in the school meals distributed each week. The federal government reimburses the district for all of the meals that are given out during this time of pandemic. We encourage you to participate in the meal program that is free to our school-aged children. I am very appreciative of our cafeteria staff that have come to work during this scary time and done everything we have asked and more. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team. I would also like to thank the volunteers who help each day.

In an effort to support social distancing, the playgrounds and fields at the schools are closed.

Thank you for all of your support for our educators and as always, if you have questions, do not hesitate to reach out to myself or principals.

Sincerely,



Brian S. Reas
Superintendent of Schools

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