



# Haverhill Public Schools

Dear Families,

We hope this message finds you and your families well during these uncertain times. As a school district, we recognize that we have entered into uncharted waters but as a community, we are confident that we will overcome the challenges that we face. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and support over the past several weeks and convey our plan going forward.

Since March 13th, our teachers and other staff members have done a phenomenal job checking in with students and providing them with what the State has called “enrichment” activities. However, given the extension of our dismissal period from school we must revise our approach.

To facilitate our commitment to learning, the District will move to a “remote learning” model beginning on Monday, April 6, 2020. Please see DESE Commissioner Riley’s *Letter to Families about Remote Learning* at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/> for more details.

We acknowledge that there is no way to remotely replace or recreate what happens in our classrooms and that remote learning must be understood broadly, going well beyond reliance on technology and involving creative approaches to learning developed by educators in collaboration with one another. Additionally, the model must provide enhanced flexibility for our students and their families as well as our educators.

The District Leadership Team has been in constant collaboration with both the building leadership teams and various district department leaders to create the most flexible learning opportunities possible for our students. This includes the distribution of over 3,000 Chromebooks to our students.

To our families who may still require a device for their student(s) to access online materials, please reach out directly to the school who will coordinate with our IT department to fulfill the request as quickly as possible. Additionally, information on free/discounted home internet and hotspots as well as an abundance of additional educational materials can be found at the links below.

Curriculum Resources: <http://www.haverhill-ps.org/supportive-home-learning-resources/>  
Internet Access: <https://www.internetessentials.com/>

While the continuance of the educational process is of great importance, our number one priority is ensuring that each one of our students is safe and feels cared for and supported by our staff. To facilitate this priority, schools are taking the following steps:

- A suggested student schedule for each school to build a normal routine for kids to follow whenever possible.
- Regular communication with teachers and other school personnel at least on a weekly basis.
- Continued lunch/breakfast served at our food distribution sites.
- Adherence to the HPS Student Handbook and Acceptable Use Policy during remote learning to ensure safety of students and staff.

Please find our school's plan attached and do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have. Our school and the entire district stand ready to support our community as we push through these uncertain times together. Note: **we will not have school** on Good Friday, April 10th, and April Vacation (April 20th to 24th) week as noted in the HPS School Calendar.

