

April 17, 2020

Dear BASD Families,

Wisconsin's Safer-at-Home order being extended until May 26 was accompanied by an announcement that **schools will be closed through the end of the school year**. Though our school buildings and grounds are closed, the Burlington Area School District **continues to be focused on student learning**.

None of us would have chosen this outcome. We will continue to offer the best education given the situation. Our teachers will continue to work with students to guide their progress. We appreciate the effort it takes families to monitor schoolwork and keep students engaged. So I, personally, have **extra appreciation for what our students, teachers, and families are doing to make it work**.

Now the question on our minds is what happens with our traditional spring events. We know that spring events, such as graduation, are an important part of our students' and families' lives. Commencement, along with other grade promotions, will be handled differently than in years past. BHS's Class of 2020 will be celebrated for its accomplishments. A committee is working on special activities for our seniors and the entire community. More information will be sent out once details are available.

Schools will communicate additional plans for other more routine tasks that come with the end of the year such as taking home personal items, returning school materials, and yearbook distribution. We're also looking toward summer and creating a plan for programs we usually offer such as summer school and community education.

There are a few announcements that district staff has asked that we share with families.

**Meal Assistance Program** - Meals will continue to be distributed on Monday (1 day of meals), Tuesday (2 days of meals), and Thursday (2 days of meals) from 12 noon – 12:30 pm at seven locations (Cooper Elementary, Cross Lutheran, Waller Elementary, Lyons Center Elementary, Lois Fago Park in Bohner's Lake, Michael's on the Lake in Kansasville, and behind Burlington Fireplace and Solar). To date, 4440 meals have been distributed.

**Material Pick-up** - Teachers will notify students / families IF they have more schoolwork to pick up. The next pick-up will be at each school on April 30 from 12 noon - 4 pm. Again, look for more information from your student's teacher.

**Library Book Return** - Students (all ages 4K-12) can return BASD library books (if they want to) on **Tuesday, April 21** at Waller, Cooper, and Cross Lutheran during the Meal Assistance pick-up time (12 noon – 12:30 pm).

**Virtual Learning / Grading** - With the news that virtual learning will continue until the end of this academic year, BASD will consider necessary adjustments to enhance the learning experience. For example, ways to enrich the video conferencing experience while also following guidelines. Schools will make a notation on all report cards (4K-12) that Spring 2020 is a COVID-19 semester.

**Contact Information** - Some families have moved due to current circumstances. Remember to update your Skyward profile if your address, phone number, or email has changed during the school closure.

**Helpful Resources** - If you or someone you know are struggling with personal finances, unemployment, housing (Link to Homeless Assistance <https://www.basd.k12.wi.us/district/Homeless%20Outreach%20COVID-19.pdf>), food insecurity, please feel free to contact Social Worker Lori Radtke ([lrادتke@basd.k12.wi.us](mailto:lrادتke@basd.k12.wi.us)). Please

see the links on BASD's Community Resources page. <https://www.basd.k12.wi.us/district/community-resources.cfm>

**Open Enrollment** - The regular application period deadline has been extended 30 days to May 29, 2020, at 4 pm (per 2019 Wisconsin Act 185) (link: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/acts/185>)

**Referendum Project Progress** - Construction on the new Karcher Middle School (link: <https://newkms6-8.blogspot.com/>) scheduled to open in the Fall of 2021 is still on track. With schools closed, we can begin some other projects slated for 2020. The Elementary Attendance Boundary Committee will have its first meeting next week and notes will be published on [basd.k12.wi.us](http://basd.k12.wi.us). So even as we feel so much is on hold at the moment, we are grateful to see these projects moving forward.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility up until now and into the future. Please continue to work at finding a healthy balance in your day to day activities.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Stephen Plank  
Superintendent