



ATTLEBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

100 RATHBUN WILLARD DRIVE • ATTLEBORO, MA 02703 • TELEPHONE: 508.222.0012 • FAX: 508.223.1577

LAURIE A. REGAN • ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

April 26, 2020

Dear APS Families,

We thank you for patience and support amid the new stressors that we all daily face. The coronavirus pandemic has brought unprecedented challenges to our students, families, and educators, and the strength of our community will help us to persevere. We appreciate the positive messages and feedback we received through the survey, emails, and phone conversations. As a result, we have adjusted our practices, which are outlined below.

Remote Learning Plans (RLPs)

With the information that you and our educators provided, we quickly realized that the RLPs needed to be streamlined to hold only important information to guide learning at home. Over the next few weeks, teachers will transition to using (or will continue to use) Google Classroom or a related digital platform. This platform will hold all assignments, student work, links to video conferences, and student feedback. The change is intended to improve communication between home and school.

Please note that the digital and non-digital options on the RLP are available for you to select the assignment that best suits your individual needs. Students are not expected to complete both options.

We recognize that you are all operating within a different context, and only ask you to do the best you can under the current conditions. If you find that the assignments are too challenging or too easy, please reach out to your child's teacher to make necessary adjustments.

Student Performance/Grading

In order for grades to be fair, we have to have the same conditions that we provide in a traditional school environment, therefore we will not be reporting numerical or letter grades for the third trimester. We will, however, be assessing student work, providing feedback, and recording that information. The purpose of this process is to provide opportunities for student growth and learning. The information gained will inform the student, family, and future teacher(s) of progress, as well as guide the District to adjust curriculum and instruction as necessary.

Level specific guidance regarding grading and student performance will be provided.

COVID-19 Family Survey

Once again, we thank you for completing the survey that was released last week. Your valuable feedback and suggested action items will guide our next steps as we move through subsequent phases of this school closure.

Here is a brief summary of the results:

67% of respondents indicated that APS was extremely or very effective in our response to COVID-19.

65% of respondents reported that our communication of the plan during the COVID-19 closure has been clear and transparent.

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When asked how easy or difficult it has been for your child to keep up with coursework expectations during the school closure, the response was varied.

43% indicated that the coursework was extremely difficult or somewhat difficult

25% indicated that the coursework was neither easy or difficult

30% indicated that the coursework was extremely easy or somewhat easy

Within the next few weeks, we will release another survey to monitor our improvements. We look forward to sharing those results with you as well.

The City of Attleboro is a wonderful community filled with families that care deeply about education. Please reach out to your child's teachers or principal if you need support – we are here for you and will get through this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Laurie Regan
Assistant Superintendent

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