

REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 40

Friendship · Union · Waldoboro · Warren · Washington
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Board Update

March 20, 2020

We created this document to summarize information and update you on the work we're doing in response to COVID-19. Please contact one of us with any questions you have.

Our goal is to provide students with quality learning opportunities and staff with opportunities to continue working despite our new normal. Staff have been preparing for extended learning opportunities for our students, as well as alternative work plans to accommodate their own families' health needs.

Monday, we will be sending out to all staff many professional development opportunities and wellness activities that are available for participation virtually. Social distancing does not have to equal social isolation and there are many ways to stay connected to our students and staff.

Food service and transportation staff have been preparing and delivering meals (lunch and breakfast) daily throughout the district. We started on Tuesday with approximately 600 meals and are scheduled to deliver over 1400 today. The number of lunches is 79% of what's typically served on a school day. Bus drivers are also helping to distribute learning materials to students.

Our technology department is working with Medomak Middle School administrators, custodial and transportation staff to deliver middle school student devices. We are developing pathways for families to contact and receive [technology support](#). In addition, we are supporting staff in providing learning opportunities for students and board members to access virtual meetings.

Facilities staff are using sanitizing products that are CDC approved against numerous contaminants including COVID-19. We currently use Nutrafect as the primary sanitizing solution throughout the district. Additionally, we purchased three backpack sprayers and Spray-n-Go sanitizers. Finally, we have ordered two electrostatic sprayers. Unlike the two products listed above that only sanitize sprayed areas, this is as an electron charged mist that fully envelopes all surfaces in a treated room. In the interim, the Augusta School Department has loaned us one for use immediately.

The Business office is reviewing the 2019-20 budget carefully in order to account for unexpected expenses that may occur as a result of our response to COVID-19.

Family Letters

- [Family Letter 3.12.20](#)
- [Family Letter 3.15.20](#)
- [Family Letter 3.17.20](#)
- [MaineHealth Request 3.18.20](#)
 - [The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America](#)
- [Family Letter 3.19.20](#)

Staff Letters

- [Staff Letter 3.15.20](#)
- [Staff Letter 3.16.20](#)
- [Staff Letter 3.18.20](#)
 - It is our intention to continue to employ and pay employees for hours worked up to the amount budgeted for each position.

[Emergency legislation](#) passed Tuesday includes sections that have importance for school districts:

- Part A - compulsory attendance with some components being waived
- Part B - unemployment if staff is not paid by the district during this time of school closures
- Part D - municipal budgets and secret ballot elections, if these events have to be postponed
- Part E - school budgets and the process should budget meetings need to be postponed
- Part G - public proceedings through remote access during declaration of state of emergency

Stay healthy and safe!

Steve Nolan, Karen Brackett, Karen Pike and Christina Wotton