

March 20, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your continued support and patience this week. Our teachers, para-professionals, administration and staff are, quite simply, the most amazing people I have ever had the opportunity to work with. They rapidly pulled together with an all hands-on deck approach and in no time at all developed plans to support our students. Our Canaan Schools family is strong and will be stronger because of this situation.

This letter will serve to update you on the latest developments and expectations going forward. We are still in a rapidly changing situation. Some of the content in the attached Continuity of Education Plan may very well change. If and when that happens, I will let you know as soon as possible.

We will be working to ensure that all students have equitable access to learning materials that are provided and are prepared by staff to extend these opportunities to all learners. During the first phase of school closure, March 18<sup>th</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>, our plan is to maintain educational progress as is outlined by the Governor.

The attached plan will outline how teachers will be following up with students on a regular basis to understand the learning infrastructure that they have available to them at home and identify the supports they would need to be successful, if we were to continue remote learning.

Teachers have been advised that they are to close grades as scheduled and will be required to follow up with students on any missing work. Students who cannot complete work remotely during this school closure period will not be penalized and grades will be marked as incomplete for the quarter.

During this first phase of school closure, teachers will communicate with students twice weekly to provide feedback on student work and confirm that their access to technology is working properly, and ensure that paper packets are available for those without Internet access.

I am asking staff to continue to engage students in learning activities and to check in on their social and emotional health and well-being. This period of time will allow us to prepare for an extended closure and confirm that we have the necessary supports and resources in place to provide our remote learning plans.

I want to thank our Canaan Schools families again for your support during this unbelievably stressful time for all of us. This will not be easy, but if we continue to work together, I feel positive that we can assist you remotely to keep your children academically, socially and emotionally supported.

I have attached the teacher's direct extensions if need to contact them by phone. If you call and leave a message at the school 802-266-8910, the message will be emailed directly to the staff member. They will be checking their emails multiple times per day to support your needs.

I will be updating the Canaan Schools website <http://canaanschools.org/> with daily notices and school related communications on the COVID19 link off the home page, along with our Facebook page. Do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at any time with questions or concerns. I am readily available to help you and your families in this time of need.

With positive healthy thoughts,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen E. Conroy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen E. Conroy  
Superintendent of Schools