

May 8, 2020

Dear Families,

I know since the Governor announced school closures through the remainder of the academic year, many of our students are struggling to stay motivated. We also know that many students are mourning the loss of the end of year and many of the traditional activities that occur, not the least of which is our graduation.

The administrators at all three buildings are working on ways to help provide those experiences for our students while also following the Governor's orders. We will be creating many experiences virtually so our students can celebrate important milestones in their academic careers. We know that families and students would prefer to enjoy these experiences in person but we are concerned that if we do not plan for these experiences virtually, we will lose the opportunity. None of us knows what the future will bring in terms of group size and social distancing requirements and assuming that if we wait we can have in person celebrations may result in students missing out. We will certainly keep our hopes up and monitor the guidelines for any changes that occur and be ready to change our plans as best as we are able.

We are waiting for updated guidance from the State regarding allowable group sizes and how that may impact some of our ideas for graduation. We will update families as soon as possible but please know many plans are being considered to make this a special time for our seniors.

ATHLETICS: The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) has shared they are cancelling the spring season. I'm sorry for all of our athletes who were not able to compete in the spring sports. I know it is just one more loss for our students this school year.

BUDGET:

The Board of Finance set the FY21 Board of Education budget at \$24,700,000, or a 3.27% increase over FY20. Due to the school closures, the federal government has allowed districts to use grant money for this year into next year. This will help us maintain some of our academic and mental health staff for our next school year. In addition, the EWPS staff have changed insurance plans which saved the district money as well.

The BOE will meet on May 13 at 7:30 pm via Zoom to discuss the budget for FY21.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION: The East Windsor Schools continue to provide bagged breakfast and lunch for all students Monday – Friday 7 am – 10 am. These are available at East Windsor Middle School as “grab and go”. If you don’t have a way to pick up, please contact your child’s school and leave a message. We will try to make arrangements to assist you much as possible.

We will not be serving meals on Memorial Day - Monday May 25.

LOCKER CLEAN OUT

Next week you will receive information about the process for getting student personal items that were left in the schools. We are requesting that you limit the request to clothing, backpacks or items that are very important to your child. To limit exposure in our schools, the custodians and administrators will be retrieving items from desks or lockers. Later in May, you will receive further information about the process for picking up.

REPORT ILLNESS: Please remember to contact the nursing lines at your child’s school if your child is feeling sick.

Broad Brook -860-627-4986 cmichaud@ewct.org

East Windsor Middle School -860-654-0094 mstroiney@ewct.org

East Windsor High School -860-627-0169 mlamas@ewct.org

Thank you for your help in allowing us to monitor the health of our staff and families.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

- For the latest information about keeping you or your family safe, go to the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC).
- For resources and information about the State of Connecticut's response visit ct.gov/coronavirus, as well as your local health department.
- Connecticut Children's [Coronavirus Information Center](#) and COVID-19 Hotline: 833-226-2362 provides resources and answers questions for families.
- Yale New Haven Health has a [COVID-19 information and call center](#) for those concerned about COVID-19. The number is 833-275-9644.

- Hartford HealthCare has set up a [COVID-19 Clinical Command hotline](#) staffed with professionals. To reach the 24-hour hotline, call 860-972-8100 or (toll-free) 833-621-0600.
- UCONN Health has a [COVID-19 call center and information page](#). The call center number is 860-679-3199. They also have drive through COVID-19 testing by appointment only.

SCHOOL CLOSURE:

The East Windsor Public Schools last day is June 18. If your child needs help staying motivated through the end of the year, please reach out to their teachers or building administrators. We are happy to provide any support we can to help students finish out a tough year.

Senior Portfolio:

All Seniors should have attended an Advisory through ZOOM on Friday, May 8th.

They were given the expectations for this year's portfolio requirement.

Portfolios are due by Friday, May 29

If you have any questions, please reach out to the school

Senior Videos:

Please look for communication from representatives of the Senior class. They are asking students to submit items to help with end of the year videos.

Thank you so much for your communication with teachers and administrators. Let me know if you have any questions.

Take care

Christine