

Bellefonte Area School District

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Dr. Michelle R. Saylor, Superintendent
Mrs. Tammie Burnaford, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kenneth G. Bean, Jr., CMA, Director of Fiscal Affairs

June 1, 2020

Dear Bellefonte Area School District Families:

We hope you and your family are doing well! We finally reached the last full week of school. As we bring this school year to a close, we'd like to share some information for these last 7 school days and take a brief look into the summer and beyond.

Continuity of Education Plan and Calendar

This will be our last week of planned instruction. Choice Boards may include some assignments and activities that do not require as much technology and have other alterations. There are no required assignments this week, but students are encouraged to complete the activities and share with their teachers, if possible. Following the approved school calendar, the last student day of the 2019 - 2020 school year will be June 9th. Teachers may provide some review or enrichment activities for students to do over the summer months, as we have done in the past. Progress Reports and Report Cards will be mailed home to parents after the school year ends. Principals will be providing more information about this.

Returning school materials

Later this week and next week, we will be collecting student chromebooks and instructional materials at all of our schools. The principals sent information to parents about the re-collection. If you need more information or have questions, please contact your child's principal or teacher.

A Look to the Future for the 2020 - 2021 school year

We have no way of knowing what August will bring or what will happen in this rapidly changing world. In an address last week, Governor Wolf said that schools will open this fall, but how that looks may be different and new. However, please know, at Bellefonte, we are

wholeheartedly committed to providing the safest and best education possible for all of our students next school year. The Pennsylvania Department of Education is expected to roll out a “toolkit” of recommendations and options very soon. We will use that toolkit as we begin to make plans for the 2020 - 2021 school year. We already have assembled our own district task force and will begin our discussions and planning later this week, and we will continue to build our contingency plans over the next 2 months. Please check our website and social media pages for updates throughout the summer. If necessary, district and school newsletters with important information or updates will be sent to parents/guardians/families as well.

Emotional/Social Well Being of Our Students

Since the onset of the coronavirus outbreak in our area and the closure of our schools, we have been mindful of the potential stress level and the mental health of our staff, families, and students. The recent national events also may create stress and anxiety in students. We have many resources, including school counselors, district social workers and outside resources, available for students and families who are experiencing stress, anxiety or just need someone to talk to. If you have concerns about the social/emotional/mental health of your child, please reach out to your child’s principal or school counselor. We want to help, if we can.

In closing, as I mentioned before, we sincerely appreciate your patience and support as we make our best effort to support students, academically, socially, and emotionally, now and always. We truly miss our students, and we can’t wait until we are together again. We hope your families are safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Tammie L. Burnaford
Assistant Superintendent
Bellefonte Area School District.