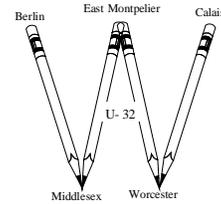


Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

1130 Gallison Hill Road
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone (802) 229-0553
Fax (802) 229-2761

Debra Taylor, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent



April 2, 2020

Dear Washington Central School District Parents and Guardians,

We hope that you're doing well and are finding routines that work for you and your family as we wrap up this second full week of dismissal. We miss our students and families. We may be apart, but we're all in this together. We can only hope that on that beautiful day when we all can congregate together once again, having endured these hardships, life will be that much sweeter.

We are entering a new teaching and learning phase during the extended school closure. We have been directed to implement a Continuity of Learning Plan by the Agency of Education. This plan outlines 4 key elements: establishing communication plans, identifying structures for student success, providing instruction and feedback, and ensuring accessibility, all slated to begin on April 13th. In addition, our Special Educators are working to develop Remote Learning Plans, which will supplement Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) during this period. We still have much work to do around planning and preparing for the remainder of the school year.

Next week, we will provide our professional staff with much-needed planning time while continuing to provide students with a week of very light maintenance of learning. Teachers will check in with students over the course of next week, while turning their primary focus to planning and preparation for remote learning for the remainder of the school year. Here is a general outline for next week so that you and your children know what to expect.

Plans for the Elementary Level:

On Monday, each elementary teacher will individually identify the Performance Indicators (PIs) they have and have not yet addressed this year for the Student Learning Outcome areas they teach, including transferable skills. Teachers will also begin to consider which PIs are the most important to address during the final quarter of the school year. Teachers will also spend some time on Monday checking in with students as they have over the past two weeks.

On Tuesday, WCUUSD teachers will get together (remotely, of course!) in grade or content-level teams to share the individual work they did on Monday and to develop common agreements about which PIs they will teach and assess at each grade level for the remainder of 2019-2020, and those that will be tabled until next fall. We feel this work must be done district-wide to ensure common expectations across each of our elementary buildings. You will likely not hear from your child's teachers on Tuesday of next week as they will spend much of it planning and preparing with their colleagues.

On Wednesday through Friday, elementary teachers will continue to work to pull lessons and materials together that support the teaching of the identified PIs. They will also work with colleagues on some of the online platforms that have been and will continue to be used during this extended dismissal (Google Classroom, Ready, SeeSaw, and Zoom). Teachers will spend some time over these three days communicating with students and families in similar ways they have been these past two weeks.

Throughout the course of this week, students will be expected to find time to read and move their bodies every day! They should also continue to work through the packets and online learning materials that have been provided and be ready to start new learning on Monday, April 13th.

Plans for U-32

Throughout the week, our secondary teachers will offer some office hours and TAs will still check in with all their students. We will expect students to do the work provided and be ready to start new learning on Monday, April 13.

Monday through Wednesday, our teachers and staff will work individually, in teams, cores, and departments to develop the learning plans for each course that identify the key Standards and Performance Indicators that students will be working on for the remainder of this year. We will also streamline our delivery of content and services so that all students have access to the learning. Teachers will use this planning time to gain additional skills with the software and applications used for distance learning as well.

On Thursday and Friday, teachers will be spending much of their time planning and creating on-line lessons with support for students with limited access.

Next week, our special educators will reach out to parents to determine what is appropriate in regards to services for students on IEPs in light of the current circumstances. They will also work with related service providers and classroom teachers to develop Distance Learning Plans for students on IEPs. These plans will be shared with families and will outline the services and accommodations that will be provided to students during this remote time of learning. Special Education teams are taking into consideration the unique needs and situations of each student and family and will develop a plan that will support students in their learning. We recognize that these plans may adapt over time as students' needs change.

Washington Central UUSD administrators, faculty and staff appreciate the patience that you have shown as we make this transition, and we hope that with this time to plan, we can regroup, take the feedback that we have received from all of you and the students, and create a learning system that works for all.

On the advice of the Secretary of Education, our Spring Break (April 20-24) will occur as scheduled. This will provide school staff and families a well-deserved break from remote schooling.

In these unprecedented times of ongoing challenge and change, know that we are by your side and ready to support you. Reach out to your child's teacher, school principal or me at any time.

Please be well and stay safe.

Sincerely,



Debra Taylor, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools