



Bloomfield Elementary School News At Home Learning Opportunity Edition May 8, 2020

Dear Bloomfield families,

I know it has been a long time since we've been together. This has been a big change for all of us and quite unexpected. As Superintendent Brent Colbry has already shared, "On April 9th the MSAD54 School board voted, in light of the Commissioner of Education and Governor's recommendation, to have our schools move to remote learning for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year." Superintendent Colbry stated, "Should guidance from the State or CDC change we will certainly revisit our plans and keep you informed." Even though we can't be in the same place, we can continue to connect through phone calls, email, Seesaw, ClassDojo, Google Classroom and Zoom. We'd like to hear from or see each of you at least once a week so that we know you are doing well and getting the things that you need. We know that not every family has internet service and/or a device to use. There is hope that the Maine Department of Education will have a solution for this in the next few weeks. If you have internet but no device, please give me a call at 474-6221 and I will try to work with you.

We are on our 3rd round of packets, each being two weeks, which have covered the following dates:

March 23 – April 5 - Packet 1

April 6 – 19 – Packet 2

April Vacation (20-24)

April 27 – May 10 – Packet 3

Future Packet Distribution Dates:

May 11 – Packet 4

May 26 (Memorial day is 5/25) – Packet 5

Keep in mind that the packets are called level 1 learning. Level 1 packets are paper-based and general across a school or for the district grade-level. The materials have been reviewed by coaches and classroom teachers to provide review, and some new learning opportunities. The materials are also available on-line at <http://bit.ly/msad54>.

Level 2 learning opportunities include assignments that are posted through email, Seesaw, ClassDojo, Google Classroom and/or Zoom. Teachers continue to plan and provide mini-lessons, share books, and other resources. These opportunities are designed to be engaging and more personal to your child's classroom or individual level of experience. We would like all families to participate, but recognize that families are all in different places.

Our district priority is to provide as many opportunities for learning as possible, in a variety of formats. We hope this helps provide equity while we work to move students forward in their learning.

It has been wonderful to see some of your faces on Zoom meetings with your teachers. Starting this week every classroom teacher is scheduling at least one Zoom or other meeting to be able to see you, and for you to be able to see and talk with your classmates. Parents can find out more about Zoom meetings by going to the district website and clicking on the At Home Learning Opportunity tab then within the Bloomfield Learning Hub. Teachers also sending out Zoom invitations and other opportunities using

parent and/or student email addresses <http://bit.ly/msad54>. Teachers are working hard to find the best way to stay connected and share learning opportunities.

The Bloomfield Elementary Staff have posted a variety of things on the Bloomfield Parent Group Facebook page. I'm very proud of all the effort staff have put into staying connected and continuing to celebrate our school family.

More than anything I want to emphasize that everything will be okay. We're all worried about our children and how this time away from traditional learning will impact them. I want you to know that as long as you are finding a way to put food on the table, be safe and comfortable, and supporting your children the best you are able, then everything else will work out.

There is someone in our school office everyday from 7:30-2:30. What are your needs? Give us a call at 474-6221 and let us help you.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Pillsbury
Principal

