3/19/20

Dear Richfield Families,

This has definitely been an intense week. Uncertainty can be stressful, both for us as adults as well as for children. As we continue to identify resources and best practices for reducing stress and supporting mental health, we will add them to the resources section of our website: www.richfieldschools.org/cv19

While we miss having the students in class, we all know that protecting the health of our students, families and staff comes first. When we said goodbye to students on Monday, we hoped it was temporary and sent them with a small number of assignments and resources to work on. As the situation evolves, we are preparing for an even longer school closure by rolling out a comprehensive distance learning program.

Unsurprisingly, all of our staff have really stepped up to the plate this week. With support from our technology department, teachers have been brushing up on and learning new skills for delivering online instruction with tools like Google Meet, Schoology and Seesaw. Teachers are developing plans to instruct students in a virtual environment using a comprehensive distance learning model that includes teacher interaction, lessons, assessments and guidelines. At the same time, other staff members are continuing their roles or filling in with new assignments like delivering food, providing child care or reaching out to all families to update contact information and check-in.

I am confident that we will be ready to roll out an engaging learning experience for Richfield students on April 6 if the school closure is extended, while also providing great support services to our families and community.

**There is something our families can do to help us prepare.** We need to assess the technology needs of our PK-5 students. We have a brief survey asking about internet and device access. If you have a child in these grades, please take a minute to complete the survey. We are working to ensure all students have the access they need to be successful. https://forms.gle/xGmpYqFvrhoNbGqx6

As week one slowly comes to an end, I continue to be impressed by all the work that is taking place across the District - serving meals assisting with child care, reaching out to families, cleaning buildings and so much more!

Please continue to stay safe and support one another.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Steven Unowsky