## FOXBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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Amy A. Berdos, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

June 4, 2020

Dear Foxborough School Community,

It is hard to comprehend that today marks twelve weeks that we have been out of school and engaging in remote learning. On Wednesday of this week, a survey was shared with all families regarding remote learning and planning for September. This survey will assist the district in understanding what worked during the remote learning period, what did not, and importantly, help us better plan and prepare for the unknowns of the fall. If you have **not** yet completed this survey, it is still open and can be accessed by the following links.

Burrell Elementary School: Click here

• Igo Elementary School: <u>Click here</u>

• Taylor Elementary School: Click here

• Ahern Middle School: Click here

• Foxborough High School: Click here

We are actively preparing for school in September. A thoughtful scenario-planning process is already underway, as is required to navigate these unprecedented levels of uncertainty. Come fall, it is realistic to think that schools, in order to properly support social distancing, may have to toggle between on-site and remote learning, stagger attendance, or use a variety of strategies in response to a resurgence. In preparation for the fall, we have applied for CARES Act funding to help implement a one-to-one computer program for our students. A one-to-one environment would enhance our remote learning opportunities and allow for more direct instruction, something that was prohibitive due to families not having a device for each student. With this in mind, it will be important that students have access to the internet at levels that can support the number of devices in the home. Families are encouraged to consult with their internet provider to ensure that they have the bandwidth necessary to support the number of devices operating at any given time.

First and foremost, our planning must be guided by the health, safety and welfare of our total school community. There is much to plan for as it is not enough to have one reopening plan. With that said, we have developed a district steering committee and associated subcommittees to tackle this work. The work of these committees will be critical to a safe reopening of schools. The decision for whichever scenario we find ourselves in will be one made by the Governor and the State Department of Education. In the meantime, we must proactively plan for whichever situation prevails.

In the coming weeks, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's <u>Return-to-School Working Group</u> will release preliminary draft guidance for schools to return in the fall. Foxborough's scenario-based plans will be based on DESE's state guidelines, understanding it is preliminary and subject to change based on <u>Massachusetts's four-phased strategy</u>. Planning will continue through the end of the school year and throughout the summer. Information will be shared with families as it becomes available.

In closing, we would like to congratulate our Class of 2020 graduates. We are incredibly proud of this class and their resilience in overcoming much disappointment at the close of their senior year. They are finishing strong and we are confident that this experience will make them even stronger.

Congratulations Class of 2020!

Sincerely,

Amy A. Berdos, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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Foxborough Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or disability.