

# Sullivan West Central School District

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**Stephen A. Walker**  
Superintendent of Schools



March 17, 2020

Dear Bulldog Families:

I hope that you, and your families, are doing well during this challenging time for all of us. We recognize that you are managing a number of different priorities right now, including balancing work and childcare, ensuring that your families have access to food, and that your child(ren) remain physically and mentally active during this time. As a School District, we have been working tirelessly to help to support you, and I ask that you please review the information below to assist you in your planning.

This Thursday morning, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Elementary School, we are planning to offer the opportunity for parents to pick up "grab and go" meals for all students in our District. These will be provided free of charge. Please come to Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up area at the Elementary School building (located by the 1938/1961 entrance) between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Thursday to pick up breakfast and lunch meals. It is our plan to continue to offer this to our families every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while our schools remain closed. If you would like to ensure that your children have access to these meals, but you are unable to get transportation to the Elementary School, please contact Lorraine Poston at (845) 482-4610, extension 3005, and we will work with you to provide arrangements to ensure that your children have access to the meals.

We have received some requests for students to be able to access certain essential items from their classroom or locker. In order to accommodate that, we will be opening both schools on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to allow students to access essential items from their classroom or locker. Students (and parents) will be escorted to and from their classroom or locker by a staff member. Please understand that this is not a time for students or parents to socialize or gather together, and we will continue to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control guidance to ensure "social distancing". If your child needs to retrieve any essential items from our schools, please come to the Main Entrance of the appropriate school between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Friday.

In order to assist you in accessing online resources for your child(ren) and your family, we have created a webpage designed to be a "one-stop" place for you to view information in a number of areas, including instructional resources, step-by-step instructions on how to access Schoology, i-Ready and other online materials, access to meals, mental health supports, and communications related to COVID-19 and our school closures. You can access this webpage at <https://www.swcsd.org/Page/2720> and at the top of our School District homepage. Please continue to check it often, as we will be adding resources on a very regular basis.

If you experience issues accessing any of the online materials, including through Schoology, i-Ready or any of our other online learning platforms, please contact Chief Technology Officer Elizabeth Huggler at [huggere@swcsd.org](mailto:huggere@swcsd.org) or by phone at (845) 807-8917.

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We also recognize that the closure of our schools has raised questions about the calendar for the rest of the school year, including Spring Break. At this time, please be prepared for the strong possibility that Spring Break will be cancelled, so that the District can work to comply with the New York State Education Department's requirements for the number of school days in a school year and hours of instruction for students. Unless the closure of our schools needs to be extended beyond April 3, please be prepared for all students to report back to school on Monday, April 6. While we are still awaiting final confirmation from the Governor's Office of the requirements that school districts will have for instructional days as a result of this unprecedented closure, please be prepared for the cancellation of Spring Break and for schools to re-open on April 6.

Finally, in addition to this letter, you have been sent a letter from me to your children, our students. I ask that you please read it to them, with them, or make sure that they read it themselves. I am hoping that it will ease some of the uncertainty that they feel during this time, and that it might be an opportunity for you to have further conversations with your child(ren) about what is happening, in our School District and around the country.

As always, our School District is here to support you, your children, and our communities. If you have any questions or need support with anything related to the COVID-19 outbreak and our schools, please feel free to contact me directly via email at [walkerste@swcsd.org](mailto:walkerste@swcsd.org), or our District's email address at [feedback@swcsd.org](mailto:feedback@swcsd.org).

Working together, we will ensure that our communities, and our schools, emerge from this outbreak united on behalf of our residents and our children.

Sincerely,

*Stephen Walker*  
Superintendent of Schools

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