



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

Phone: (508) 854-8400 Fax: (508) 854-8484

www.akfcs.org

AKF Update to Families

March 16, 2020

Dear Abby Kelley Community:

I hope this message finds you as well as can be expected, given all that has taken place over the weekend. Students **should have come home Friday** with packets of work, information for school specific Websites and other resources they needed from their classrooms/desks/lockers. If, for some reason that did not happen, please contact your student's teacher/homeroom teacher directly, by email.

As I am sure you are aware, Sunday, March 15, 2020 Governor Baker issued a **mandatory three-week closure of all schools in the state**. With this mandate, **Abby Kelley will reopen, at the earliest, on Monday, April 6, 2020**. I will be meeting with our Administration Council to develop additional education plans for students, with the support of our faculty and staff. Further communication on those plans will be forthcoming. You can expect to hear from your student's Principal(s) as well.

Support with meals

With the closing of schools, we are concerned for our students who rely on the meals provided during school hours. The City of Worcester, in conjunction with the Worcester Public Schools, released a [schedule](#) of meal sites, for students under 18 years of age. This program will look very similar to the **Summer Mobil Meal Schedule** used within the City over summer breaks. **Meals will be available beginning Wednesday, March 18th**. Locations and times are listed on the schedule (linked above). If there are changes/additions, those will be communicated as quickly as possible.

ProjectBread, continues to support their [FoodSource Hotline](#).

Distance Learning Resources

It has been uplifting to see so many Social Media posts regarding the outpouring of online support which companies and individuals are offering to students and families at this time. I would like to commend our Middle School PTO for starting and sharing a [Facebook](#) post of resources to support everyone staying active. Our Elementary School PTO began a [Facebook](#) post of resources for educational offerings locally and throughout the country. These resources are appropriate for all students, I hope you will be able to utilize them.

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness and all students have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.



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The Facebook Group “[Amazing Educational Resources](#)” has constant updates, conversations and ideas. They have also started a [spreadsheet](#) of resources, which you might find helpful. Please do reach out to your student’s teachers for support of information with these resources.

Spectrum Broadband offers [free 60-day WiFi](#) to provide WiFi access to students. I have not looked into this extensively, but there is a number to call on the Website. I do hope it is of some support to some of our families.

I encourage you to do what you can, when you can for your student(s). Supporting a routine as best you can manage will benefit everyone; 20 minutes of reading a day, worksheets, the online resources and certainly connecting with your student’s teacher(s) are options for your family. These suggestions are made in the hope they might provide some support in establishing structure, amid all the uncertainty.

Our teachers have been amazing with their email communications, social media support. I thank them for all they have done, and continue to do, for our students.

Last week I shared a link to the National Association of School Psychologists [Webpage](#) regarding talking to children about COVID-19. That link continues to be beneficial to share. This will be a challenge, but we look to get through together. I will continue to keep you updated as best I can. Things develop and change quickly, as I am sure you see first hand; we are **all** trying to keep up with it all. Our school’s [Website](#) continues to be updated for families as well. I am thinking of our entire Abby Kelley community.

Sincerely,

Brian Haas

Executive Director

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