



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

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MCAS Update

April 13, 2020

Abby Kelley Families:

I hope you and families were able to enjoy the recent holidays; whether it was a small event with your immediate family or a larger group using online resources.

Last Friday (April 10th) we received notice from the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for the state that **MCAS testing for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year has been cancelled for students in grades 3-10**. This comes as a result of a request by the state for a waiver from the federal requirement for this testing, which was granted. At the state level, the necessary legislation was completed to allow for the Commissioner to make this decision.

As a result of these legislative actions, the Commissioner is reviewing the Competency Determination Requirements for students, as satisfactory MCAS scores are used to determine a student's eligibility for high school graduation.

What this means is at this time, there will be no MCAS testing for the remainder of this school year and as a district Abby Kelley will await guidance from DESE on how to address this disruption to the MCAS testing schedule as students progress in their education.

I appreciate all of your patience as we move through all these processes on all levels necessary. I encourage students to continue with their school work each day, as it is important for them to maintain the skills they have learned thus far, and where possible to expand those skills. I thank you, their at home support system, for keeping your student(s) focused and committed to education.

If you do have questions, I encourage you to connect with your student's principal. Please note, the principals may not have additional information on this development for the foreseeable future, as this is a recent development which I did want to share with you, but does require additional follow up from DESE for the future.

Please take care today; the weather lends itself to finding a good book and staying indoors.

Sincerely,

Brian Haas

Executive Director