March 18, 2020

Dear CSD Families,

We are officially through the first day with no students in our halls. As administrators, we are feeling sad to lose the face to face contact that we normally get on a daily basis. But, there is plenty of work to be done and we are charging ahead. The administrators met all day today extensively planning for the coming days and weeks. Above all, it is most important to us that our students and their families still feel connected while school is closed. Teachers are working on materials for students and before the end of the day on Friday, each building principal will email their families to share the school’s plan for maintaining learning. We may not have all the answers right now, especially given how often things are changing, but we will continue to communicate with you as things evolve and we carry on with our planning for the next two weeks.

The first day of our meals program was controlled chaos! Our staff turned out in amazing force to deliver meals all around Colchester. We actually ran out of food at one point and had to ask our food service workers to start making more! Buses that had completed their runs then came back to the high school to bring the fresh meals out to where they were needed. From our bus drivers, food service workers, delivery employees, smiling kids and appreciative families; overall, today showed the unbelievable kindness throughout our amazing community. If you were looking for a meal today and didn’t get it, know that we are still working out the kinks and we will get better every day. The routes times will continue to get streamlined as we get a few more delivery days under our belt. Thank you for your patience and flexibility. We are committed to being here for our families.

Another important note, our school resource officers are shifting back into the Colchester Police Department during the school closure. If you are looking to connect with Jamie Bressler or Mark Jacobs please feel free reach out to them via email jamie.bressler@colchestersd.org, mark.jacobs@colchester.org, or directly at the Colchester Police Department 264-5556.

I want to take a second to remind you that we will get through this together. To the seniors at CHS, I know this is not what you imagined your senior year to look like. I am comforted knowing that we have amazing leaders, teachers and school counselors at CHS that will assist you in navigating the next few weeks.

We are fortunate to live in a time when we can connect virtually with our friends and loved ones easier than ever before. Call each other often and keep in touch, pay attention to your mental health needs, and wash your hands! Remember if you need anything please reach out, we might not be in the same room together but we are still in this together! #WEARECOLCHESTER

Sincerely,

Amy Minor
Superintendent of Schools