April 5, 2020

Good afternoon, Sollers Point Technical Students and Families.

I would like to begin by thanking everyone for the patience regarding the Baltimore County Public Schools remote teaching and learning plan. Teachers and administrators spent last week engaged in professional development in order to learn best practices for communicating, teaching, and learning in a remote environment. Each day administrators receive new updates regarding frequently asked questions from students and community members. I want to thank all of you who have used the Superintendent’s COVID-19 website to ask questions as well as utilize posted resources. Many questions have yet to be answered; however, rest assured that when we have an answer, we will share it in a timely manner via phone message, email, Sollers Point Website and our Schoology Home Page for Sollers Point.

Beginning Monday morning April 6th at 7:30 a.m., all Sollers Point teachers are required to have their Schoology class websites up and running for students. Each class website will include a welcome page, virtual office hours equaling 2 hours per day, resources, and lessons for the week to be completed by your children. 95% of Sollers Point teachers chose to conduct the required 30-minute weekly class meeting on Wednesday. The other teachers chose Thursday. Student links and phone numbers with pins for the class meetings will be posted at a later time as we DO NOT want students entering online classrooms without the teacher present. BCPS and Google are currently working on a solution for this. Furthermore, BCPS and Google have locked down the online classrooms so that individuals without BCPS credentials will be blocked if they attempt to enter. For the online class meetings, the BCPS preference is that any student who has Internet capability at home use the web link that will be embedded inside their Schoology class page. Students without Internet will be provided a phone number and pin to access their class meetings.

This evening, I plan to post a cumulative technology update for all families and students on the Sollers Point and Schoology websites. Beginning tomorrow morning students and parents will have access to the technology support desk for BCPS. This support desk for students and families opens at 7 a.m. on Monday, April 6th. Both a phone number and web-based portal will be available for you to use and is forthcoming tonight.
The remote lessons in Schoology can be completed on a computer and/or a smart phone that has access to Schoology. Google Chrome is the recommended browser for accessing BCPS resources, Google Meetups and Schoology. Teachers have been directed to accept student submissions in a variety of formats including online submissions through Schoology, a photograph of the work via your phone, or through the weekly Google Meetup video conferences.

BCPS is still working out the print pathway for high school students who have either broken devices or limited or no access to the Internet. Paper and pencil submissions will also be accepted when we have the paper packet system finalized for the secondary level. Thank you to those students and families who have reached out to me regarding technology issues. I have made each of your teachers aware in order to quickly find print solutions. I plan to send update messages to everyone every 48 hours as new information is provided to schools from the Superintendent.

Attached Resources or Links:

2. Sollers Website - http://sollerspoinths.bcps.org
4. Technology Updates will be posted tonight to our Websites.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation at this time. Please be safe and well.

Principal Weglein