



SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Joseph Onofrio II
Superintendent of Schools

Kim Gadaree
Business Manager

Donna Gittleman
Director of Student Services

March 22, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I sincerely hope you and your family are well during this very stressful and challenging moment in our lifetime. We will get through this together! Thank you for your support and assistance regarding the many steps needed to successfully transition to partnering with you as our students receive instruction, guidance, and lessons remotely. You will continue to receive specific instructional information from your child's teachers and support staff directly. You are always welcome to contact Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Driscoll, Mrs. Gittleman, or me.

At the time of this writing on Sunday evening, March 22, 2020, the Governor is NOT closing Municipal offices but asking each Mayor, Selectman, and Superintendent to limit persons accessing our buildings to less than 10 as well as encouraging our office staff to work from home while we provide opportunities for our instructional staff to be able to go into our buildings to obtain needed items and perhaps assemble more packets and instructional materials. You may contact Mrs. Phillips if you need to coordinate picking up anything from school other than free meals. There is no need to contact anyone regarding the free meal program for all students who reside in Salem, regardless of where they attend school. You may pick up free meals on Monday and Wednesdays, in the Bus Lane at Salem School from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. If you need to make an appointment with Mrs. Phillip to pick up anything, when you email Mrs. Phillips with your request, please avoid requesting appointments on Monday and Wednesday mornings until after 11:00 AM.

Currently I am participating on every conference call from the Federal and State Government as well as with the Commissioner of Education in addition to watching the almost daily Federal and State Press Conferences broadcast on TV. Please know it is most important that we practice all of the guidelines set out in the President's 15 days to slow the spread https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf and Connecticut Governor Lamont's "Stay safe, stay home" initiative. You may already know that within the past twenty-four hours, the total number of folks who identified as positive with the Coronavirus in the US has increased from 19,000 to 31,000. You also probably know that there are positive cases in all counties in CT. PLEASE be safe and stay healthy. As I shared above, we will get through this together. Please give my best to your children; I truly miss being with them.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Onofrio II
Superintendent
Salem School District

JO/jlk

Salem School District's Mission Statement

"Salem inspires learning, creativity, critical thinking, personal integrity, and citizenship."