Dear BWRSD families,

Thank you for your continued support of your children, our teachers and staff, and our collective distance learning efforts because your help has been critical to making this journey successful. We will continue to share the most up to date information possible so you are aware of our next steps.

**Governor’s Update on Distance Learning**
Based on the directive issued by Governor Raimondo during the press conference Monday, March 30, distance learning will continue through at least the month of April.

**Changes to April Calendar**
BWRSD will be adopting a modified school calendar following the request of Governor Raimondo to have consistency throughout the state. **Friday, April 3, 2020**, and **Friday, April 17, 2020**, will be strategic pause days for staff. There will be no distance learning instruction on those days. Staff will use those days to work with colleagues. Additionally, **Thursday, April 9, 2020**, and **Friday, April 10, 2020**, BWRSD will be “closed” to provide all members of the BWRSD community a break for an extended weekend. *These days are considered part of the 180 day school calendar and do not need to be made up.*

**Governor Raimondo's Press Conference for Kids - April 2, 2020**
The Governor’s press conference this **Thursday, April 2nd, at 1 p.m.**, will be a *kids press conference*. It will be aired online and on television and provide an opportunity for the Governor to talk directly with students, to answer their questions and to share important information with them as they are learning to live with the changes we’ve had to make as a result of COVID-19. Students will have until 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1st, to submit questions via a Google Form that will be sent out by RIDE. We will forward the form to students later today.

**State Assessments Cancelled for 2019-2020**
The following Rhode Island state assessments are canceled for the 2019-20 school year:
- RI SAT School Day with Essay
- PSAT10
- Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) alternate assessments
- Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS)
- Next Generation Science Assessment (NGSA)

**Kids Link Support for Families**
Kids Link is a hotline that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Parents can call **1-855-543-5465** when their child is feeling excessive anger or sadness; lashing out at siblings, friends and adults; having severe worries; or hurting him or herself or others.

**Increased Wi-Fi to Families**

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*The Bristol Warren Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, National origin, color, disability or sexual orientation in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.*
Governor Raimondo announced today that local internet service providers will offer free cell phone hotspots to families who do not currently have wi-fi. The four carriers are ATT, Verizon, Sprint, and T-Mobile. Please check with your carrier for details.

**BWRSD Online Tech Support for Families**

Please continue to email BWRSDTech@BWRSD.org for support during this time of Distance Learning. The email account is accessible 24 hours per day, and you can expect a response within 1 school day. The most common issue for not being able to access apps such as STEMscopes is that they may not be going in through CLEVER or that families need to have students login to the Chrome browser with their BWRSD credentials. [Here are directions.](#)

**Updates to Breakfast and Lunch Distribution**

This week, we have served approximately 150 students per day in our meals program. We know that we have more students that receive free and/or reduced price meals, and families that may have suffered a job loss are eligible for breakfast and lunch during distance learning. Current locations for food pick up are Kickemuit Middle School, Colt Andrews Elementary School, and Hope and Main. Please follow this link to go to our website to complete a [Free and Reduced Price meals form.](#) It is electronic and takes a few minutes to complete. This will ensure your student has access for the remainder of the school year to this resource while we are implementing distance learning.

**Beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, April 1, 2020,** we will be expanding our hours of operation at each of the three (3) sites. **Meals will now be available from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. each day.** We are continuing to work on additional location sites and will share this information as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Jonathan T. Brice*

Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

******************************************************************************Previously Provided Information******************************************************************************

Please visit our [Distance Learning Plan/COVID-19 Info page](#) on our website for all previous BWRSD Community Updates and other helpful information.

**BWRSD Community Update 3.27.20**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.26.20**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.24.20**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.20.20**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.18.20 (English)**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.18.20 (Portuguese)**
**BWRSD Distance Learning FAQs**
**Notice re Meal Access During Closure, March 17, 2020**
**BWRSD Community Update 3.13.20**