

April 11, 2020

Dear Families,

It is our hope that everyone is well and safe at home. We know that our new normal is very difficult and so many of you are navigating work, children, elderly parents and other complications. As a community, we are here to support you. Please let us know how we can help.

To keep you up-to-date with what I know, the Governor has indicated that he will make an announcement by Friday, April 17 related to the timeline for remote learning in New Hampshire. This is a complicated question as it does not just impact schools, but the Governor must consider entities like businesses, restaurants, hospitals, and nursing homes. When I learn something new, I will pass it along immediately.

Please see below for important information and calendar updates.

Warm regards,  
Nan

### Important Updates

#### Co Curricular Schedule

I have fielded some questions about when our co-curricular classes meet. For your convenience, here is the schedule we are following. (Note: Content for PK is being integrated by Kasia and Brett.)

	Art	Music/Drama	Health Ed	PE	Spanish
Monday	K, 1	2, 3	4, 5		6, 7, 8
Tuesday	6, 7	K, 1, 8	2, 3	4, 5	6, 8
Wednesday	8	6, 8	K, 1	PreK, 2, 3	4, 5, 7, 8
Thursday	4, 5	7, 8	6	K, 1	2, 3,
Friday	2, 3	4, 5	7		K, 1

## School Events

### **Spring Break – CALENDAR CHANGES**

Based on feedback from the parent survey, we will do the following.

Wednesday, 4/29:	A special day of service projects
Thursday and Friday, 4/30 + 5/1:	No School/Vacation
Monday, 5/11	No School: Professional Development day
Monday, 5/25:	No School: Memorial Day
Monday-Tuesday, 6/1-6/2:	Special End of School Events (Move-Up Day, Field Day)
Wednesday, 6/3	Last Day of School

**Please update your calendars.**

- **Shrek the Musical** – If we *do* return to school, we will find a way to present the play via video streaming. If we *do not* return to school, our plan is to make a video compilation of singing and telling the story of Shrek by our student actors.
- **The Eighth Grade Performance** – We are currently working on a virtual music video. Should school resume, we will reassess how we move forward.
- **Graduation** – We have just begun to think about ideas for graduation. Before we formalize any plans, we need to know more about the plan for social distancing.
- **Flour Babies** for Grade 5 – Lissa is working on a plan for this. Information will be forthcoming.
- **Earth Day** – Wednesday, April 22 – We will have activities that support the earth day theme.
- **Writer’s Festival** – Thursday, April 16 – Teachers are creating language arts activities that focus on writing skills
- **K-2 Museum** – We are still thinking about this.
- **Music Recital** – Zac will set up a Padlet for students to share their performance.
- **Lake Canobie** – Grade 6 – We are waiting to hear from the Governor about further remote learning before we decide how to proceed.
- **Move Up Day** – We plan to do move up day in a live, virtual environment. It most likely will be the last week of school.
- **Field Day** – We are brainstorming how we might create a virtual program.
- **School Service** – We are planning a service day in which students can engage in a project at home, perhaps cards or letters to front line people who are today’s heroes.

## Parent Survey

Thank you so much for filling out our Remote Learning Survey. We had more than 100 responses – Go SBS Parents!!!

Your responses have given us the information we need to better tailor our program to your needs. The following is a summary of what we learned and our future plans.

Survey Item	Results	Action Item
<b>Workload</b> Way too much Too much Just right Too little Way too little Other (Comments)	<1% 17% 45% 9% <1% 30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The workload appears to be appropriate for most people.</li> <li>If your child has difficulty completing the work, please contact the teacher.</li> <li>We will work with teachers to continue to add engaging ideas for enrichment.</li> </ul>
<b>Quality of Activities</b>	85% positive	Faculty is quickly becoming more adept at teaching remotely, which is pedagogically opposite from what we believe is good for children. Please know they are committed to high quality interactions and instruction every day for every lesson!
<b>Lesson clarity</b>	93% positive	YAY! Go teachers!
<b>Student understands how to do the activities</b>	70% positive	The teachers are working on video instructions for lessons to help students understand exactly what is expected.
<b>Lessons are well organized</b>	83% positive	We will review lesson organization for continuous improvement.
<b>Teacher connects with student</b>	90% positive	All good! Our teachers love your kids!
<b>SBS Connects materials and navigation</b>	88% positive	Although this is positive, comments indicate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grades 4-8 use Google Classroom and want to be able to see the assignments and feedback. We will share with you ways to do this.</li> <li>Links to external sites are hard to find – we have planned to include the links to external sites on the SBS Connects Grade Level pages.</li> </ul>
<b>Ways to connect with teachers – all that apply</b> Email Phone calls Text and audio comments Live office hours Google Meet	90% 43% 53% 34% 48%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will continue to primarily use emails.</li> <li>Feel free to request a phone or video conference with the faculty.</li> <li>We will experiment more with live office hours.</li> </ul>

Survey Item	Results	Action Item
<b>Remote instruction preferences – all that apply</b>		
Video	100%	We will continue to use all of these options.
Real time	91%	
Offline	99%	
<b>Frequency of real time interaction</b>		We thought that the students would like to connect in real time more often, and our goal was 2-3 times daily. However, parents' responses indicate that is too much. We will adjust accordingly.
2-3 times per week	76%	
Once per day	13%	
More than once per day	4%	
As much as possible	7%	

**We are working on a few other areas based on the comments received:**

- There was some confusion over due dates, so we are paying attention to ensure that those are clear.
- A few of you requested more optional work for the students. Teachers have included optional activities on their pages will continue to do so.
- Based on grade level, teachers are formalizing ways to provide feedback on assignments.