March 26, 2020

Hello Boonsboro Families,

If you’re like us, then the Governor’s announcement Tuesday leaves you with many questions. I want to start by saying that this is new and uncharted territory for everyone - including educators. We fully understand how upsetting and confusing all of this is because we are feeling it in many ways as well. Our teachers and staff immediately began expressing their sadness Monday afternoon when we learned that time with our students was being cut short this year. That said, I want to be transparent in telling you that we aren’t going to have an immediate answer to every single question at this time, but I can assure you that as we receive information and develop plans we will share that information with you as quickly as possible.

I want to go ahead and address a few things that may be on your minds, knowing that we will have much more to share in the days and weeks to come. It is important to understand that we are receiving new guidance from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) and our school division frequently, and this information is likely to be adjusted often.

1. Pickup of Other Belongings at School, and Library books you wish to drop off - at this time we are still in the process of developing a plan to provide students and families with opportunities to come and collect and return belongings from/to the building. We will share this plan with you as soon as it is available. All of your children’s items are secured and locked in the building.

2. Yearbooks - our yearbook coordinator is currently working with our yearbook distributor to develop a plan, and we will share this with you as soon as it is available.

3. Refunds for Field Trips - our bookkeeper and field trip coordinators are working diligently to process and send refund checks as soon as possible. We ask for your patience as we work to generate and mail these refund checks as quickly as possible.

4. Learning Activities - while we await further guidance from the VDOE and our school division regarding learning activities, our teachers are excited to do everything they can to keep our students learning. As such, we will be working to provide a weekly document outlining suggested learning activities for each subject, including electives and general fun activities for students and their
families. We will post this document to our school website and email it to you each week. If you are not receiving emails weekly from your child’s teacher, it is because the email address we have is not current. Please email your child’s teacher to update another way to reach you. While these activities are not graded, we are now sharing new grade level content in exciting ways. We will find ways to check in with your child weekly to make sure that they are progressing on their continuum of learning.

Finally, I just want to say again that this is a new experience for all of us. I wish I could show you the countless calls, emails, and messages I have received from our staff and community asking what they can do to help. It is amazing to see how quickly we can mobilize when we are all committed to doing what is right for our students. While this is a perplexing time for everyone, it highlights the strength and unity of our school and community, and it makes me very proud to be a Boonsboro Eagle! Please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email at ewilliams@bedford.k12.va.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Beth Williams

Elizabeth Williams, M Ed.
Principal