



WEST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

"Schools Committed to Excellence"

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NEIL C. CAVALLARO

Superintendent of Schools

March 24, 2020

Dear Staff, Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I am writing to inform you of the latest developments as they relate to the COVID-19 virus. You may already know by now that **Governor Lamont through his latest executive order, has closed all schools until at least Monday, April 20th**. Our distance learning program, which began yesterday, will continue until schools are reopened. Remember that all teaching staff are available from 9:15 until 1:05 each day while school is scheduled to be in session. From Thursday, April 9th through Friday, April 17th, however, is the spring recess. While teachers may not be available then, our distance learning website has many resources and activities that your family can work on during that time.

Our distance learning program began yesterday, and so far, we've gotten a lot of positive feedback. Our administrative and teaching staff have done an outstanding job of developing lessons, creating a website, and most importantly reaching out to every child who attends school here. They are to be commended for their efforts, and I am truly grateful for all of the time and hard work that has gone into this new venture. This community is lucky to have such a dedicated group of professionals who always put our students first. Thank you to everyone!

As we continue to develop this program, we welcome your feedback and suggestions. The questions and concerns you've raised so far, have allowed us to think carefully as we do our

part to implement best practices for distance learning. As I've said many times in recent weeks, without your assistance, this experiment can't be successful.

Finally, beginning this Thursday, we will be adding Savin Rock Community School as a distribution site for our grab and go meal program. Please check our website, whschools.org for the other sites and times when food is given out. The days for distribution remain Monday and Thursday.

Once again, I can't thank you all enough for your efforts. Watching this community come together during a time of crisis certainly makes me understand how lucky I am to be your Superintendent.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil C. Cavallaro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and "C".

Neil C. Cavallaro
Superintendent of Schools