

The Update

Southern Valley Unified Union School District Newsletter Halifax and Readsboro

April 3, 2020

Principal's Note-

I share our Superintendent's letter with you all this week.

April 3, 2020

Dear WSWSU Community,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families as well as possible given the level of uncertainty surrounding us. Given that the situation with COVID-19 is fluid, fast moving and complex, decisions change rapidly based on new guidance provided to us daily by the Agency of Education and Governor's Office. I understand the many challenges that change brings and that the entire situation is trying for all of us. Thank you for bearing with us as we do our best to provide remote learning to our students under these circumstances.

I truly appreciate the great lengths to which all of you have gone to be flexible and adaptive. I recognize the faculty for their countless hours of work on behalf of their students. They have done a tremendous job of working to engage their students remotely. I commend the staff for all that they are doing to support the range of efforts we are undertaking. They continue to be willing to report to work ready to help out in any way needed and have been critical members of our food service and student learning teams. I also want to acknowledge the herculean efforts of every family partner with us in the remote education of their children. I understand that this is not easy for anyone and we are committed to doing the best we can to make things more manageable. Your cooperation has been paramount to our ability to manage emergent issues quickly and responsibly, and I am grateful for your support.

Below is some information about different topics.

Here is what we know about April Break:

1. We will have April break, as scheduled in our calendar, from April 20-24.
2. We will continue meal deliveries during this break.

Here is what we know thus far about Continuity of Learning Plan:

1. Our COVID-19 Taskforce has been working many hours everyday to create a plan that is aligned with the guidelines provided by the Vermont Agency of Education (AoE). You can see the most updated version of those guidelines [here](#). Our first draft of the plan will be submitted to the state next week for revisions.
2. As directed by the state, we are prioritizing relationships and equity, in addition to remote learning in our plan.
3. As directed by the state, we will be starting to implement our Continuity of Learning Plan on April 13th. Specifics about the plan are forthcoming.

Here is what we know about Professional Development for teachers and staff:

1. In order for our teachers and staff to be able to best implement our Continuity of Learning Plan and be the best they can be at remote learning, we are planning two inservice days: April 9th and April 10th. There will be no school on these days.
2. Our standard food service delivery program will be in place on April 9th and 10th.

I know that there are many other questions that you have as we move forward on this remote learning journey together. The Taskforce and I will aim to communicate answers as we have them. Thank you for your patience as we navigate these uncharted waters to the best of our ability with the best information we have.

We extend our wishes for peace and compassion during this difficult time.

Sincerely,



Barbara Anne Komons-Montroll, Superintendent
WSWSU Taskforce

Please remember the [SVUUSD webpage](#) will keep you informed of any state memos, and or announcements on the State, District and School Newsletter section. The District has created a [E learning website](#) that provides more detail as to the process that we are engaging in for distance learning, this too will be updated and teachers websites can be accessed under the [School Specific Site tab](#).

Thank you all,

Sandy Pentak-Cohen