

Good Morning PCS Families, Caregivers and Staff,

Important Updates:

1. **Plainville Community Schools Distance Learning Waiver Approved!** I just received confirmation that our distance learning waiver will be approved and we are able to move forward with our distance learning plans. That is very good news for Plainville Community Schools! Each of our principals will continue to work with their staff to keep you informed and with updates about their distance learning model. I have been very impressed by the incredible efforts of our leaders and teachers thus far, and those efforts will only improve as we move forward and gain additional experience with this new system. Please look for more information from your school principals with additional details, reminders and resources over the days and weeks ahead.
2. **School Closure Extension:** Based on Governor Lamont's latest Executive Order issued last night, all Connecticut schools are to **remain closed through March 31**. Please note that this change extends our days out of school from my original March 27 date. At this time, students would return to school on April 1, but as with many details related to this pandemic, this is subject to change based on updates from national and state officials, the Center for Disease Control and the Department of Public Health.
3. **Food Service Request and Information:** *Please help us help by letting us know in advance how many meals you plan on picking up on which days by using this link: <https://forms.gle/MV4CqCZ7JpWZWh5Y9>* As I shared last night: Starting Tuesday, March 17, families can stop by the main entrance of Plainville High School between 11:00am and 12:00pm (under the large awning near the flagpole on Robert Holcomb Way), and pick up a free lunch for that day, and also a breakfast for the following day. Families will need to provide their child(ren)'s name(s) and will be asked to take the meals home with them. There will be no eating at the school or use of the school by students and families during this time. We plan to assess the demand for this program and make adjustments as needed. Thank you for helping us help our community!
4. **Elementary Device Needs:** Our technology staff has been working with our elementary principals to plan for the distribution of Chromebooks for student use, as needed. Preference will be given to students in grades 3-5 at this time, since we have a limited number of available devices for the elementary level and lessons are more technology based in the upper grades. It is important that only students who do not have a device take advantage of this opportunity and due to the limited number, we are also limiting devices to one per family. Elementary principals will be sending a detailed message to families later today with device pick-up procedures. ***Pick-up will be available tomorrow between the hours of 9:00am-3:00pm at locations designated by your principals.***

Look for more information from my office and from your child(ren)'s school leaders over the coming days. We will be continue planning for all contingencies as far in advance as possible, while also understanding that we must take care this one day, and sometimes one hour, at a time. Remember to check our website www.plainvilleschools.org for additional information about COVID-19 and for information on distance learning that will continue to be updated. Also, follow us on Twitter at **@PlvComSchools**. I believe our chosen hashtags for this year are proving to be fitting for the obstacles we continue to face and overcome together in Plainville this year. #WeArePlainville #TogetherWeCan #PCSHeroes

Please do all you can to keep yourselves and your children healthy.

Sincerely,

Steve LePage, Superintendent of Schools