



RIGOR, RELEVANCE, RELATIONSHIPS, RESILIENCE

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Dear Colleagues and Families,

It is hard to believe that the end of our 2019-2020 school year is fast approaching with less than two weeks left. I didn't imagine at the time of my last letter that our lives would get even more tumultuous. If you have not yet had a chance to read the joint statement from Mayor Arrigo, Chief Bright, Chief Guido, and me, you can find it on our website at www.reverek12.org. Any students or families who need help processing Mr. Floyd's murder or the ensuing unrest across our nation should reach out to their principal, assistant principal, or school social worker who can connect them with supports. I pray that we can all work together and use this moment as a gateway to a stronger, more united, more loving, and anti-racist community. The following links have resources for talking to children about racism:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/talking-about-race/>

<https://www.apa.org/pubs/magination/pdf/441B228-additional-resources.pdf>

[https://www.embracerace.org/assets/embraceracetipsenglish-\(2\).pdf](https://www.embracerace.org/assets/embraceracetipsenglish-(2).pdf)

Although it is hard right now to focus on business as usual, here is some information on upcoming events:

Grades

Last assignments for seniors were posted on Friday, May 31st. They should be completed now. Students who need more time to finalize their work should contact their teachers. The very last day for sending work in is Tuesday, June 16th.

Final assignments for all other students were posted today. They should be completed over the next week and their very last day to submit work is also Tuesday, June 16th.

Teachers will use June 17th and 18th to finalize grading and reports. Report cards will be mailed home the week of June 22nd.

Graduation

We continue to work with students to define an in-person graduation ceremony around mid-August. As we attempt to honor the preferences of our graduates, venue and guest attendance are our greatest challenges. We are prioritizing effective social distancing to ensure the safety of attendees. Most likely, each graduate will be allowed to have just two guests present. We will ensure that the event is live-cast so other loved ones can watch from home. We continue to work with the class officers on details. Dr. Perella and Mr. Magno will share the specifics when they are more firm. We will be following the state guidelines released by the Department of Public Health, which you can find here:

<https://mailchi.mp/doe.mass.edu/commissioners-weekly-update-5-26-20-board-recap-return-to-school-working-group-celebrating-the-class-of-2020?e=583fc2bc03#celebrating>

Personal Items

For up-to-date information regarding the 2019 novel Coronavirus, please visit the DPH COVID-19 web site at www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus Or the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov

You should have received a notification from your child's principal about retrieving personal items. Please reach out to the principal if you have not.

Art Supplies

We ordered some art supplies for students that took longer than planned to come in. While we were not able to incorporate these into our spring lessons, we hope students can still benefit by using them to develop their artistic expression over the summer. Small bags, including a water color set, paint brush, colored pencils, paper, and safety scissors will be available at the Beachmont and RHS meal pick up sites next week and while supplies last.

Chromebooks and iPads

We have determined it is in the best interest of students who are returning to the Revere Public Schools next year to keep the iPads and Chromebooks they borrowed through the summer. As these are school devices, just like borrowed text books, families will be responsible for their care. Students will likely need them in the fall.

Grade 12 students will be returning their Chromebooks as directed by the RHS and Seacoast staff.

For families of students in grades K-11, if you know now or if you decide over the summer that your child will not be returning to our schools, please contact your principal about returning devices so we may release any needed academic records.

Summer Programs

We are developing summer programs through the Special Education Office and the English Learner Office to begin remotely on July 6th. If we are able to include face-to-face learning or face-to-face social development programs, we will incorporate those into the programs later in the summer. The Special Education and English Learner departments will be in touch with families who qualify for those programs by June 18th.

The Revere Recreation Department is also developing summer camp programming to be held in several schools across the district this summer. Please watch for more information on those programs to be posted by the Recreation Department and on the City of Revere website.

We are in the middle of the State required bid process for a partner to oversee our before and after school and summer care programs which are currently run by Alphabest. We hope to have that process completed soon and will look to structure additional summer care programs through a partner who wins the state bid. We will message elementary parents through Class Dojo with any additional information once it is firm.

Summer Food Services

On June 15th, we will transition from our "school year" meals program to our "summer" meals program. Families picking up meals on June 15th will receive a full week of meals. There will be no food pick up on Friday, June 19th.

On Monday, June 22nd, we will resume our typical breakfast and lunch pick up at the Beachmont and High School on Mondays and **Thursdays** (note the change to pick up on Thursdays instead of Fridays) from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. We will no longer be able to offer home delivery services for summer meals. Our School Resource Officers and others will resume the meal pick-up programs in Gibson Park, Oak Island Park, and Hywood Street Park.

Next School Year

We expect guidance from Commissioner Riley's office next week on what in person, remote, and hybrid programs might look like next year. We have been working with administrators and teachers to start thinking about all three kinds of models and identify some needs to make each successful. We do want parent, student, and more teacher input on both planning and capacity. We have two listening "events" planned in which we hope you will participate:

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1) On June 23rd, we will hold a virtual Town Hall meeting via Zoom. To register for this event, please complete the google form at this link <https://forms.gle/WFhvW4Fu9KmPSv137> depending on participation, we may host several simultaneous events.

2) On July 8th, we will email a survey to families and teachers to collect data on preferences for returning to school. We will use that data to further inform planning for the 2020-2021 school year. We promise to keep it brief and ask that all families and teachers respond so we can plan effectively. Please watch for the link. When that data is compiled along with state guidance and information from the June 23rd virtual town hall, we will plan another virtual town hall for later in July to refine our plans.

P-EBT Cards

Commissioner Riley asked that we share the following link with information for families who received P-EBT cards. If you are having trouble activating your card, information on how to do so can be found here: <https://www.map-ebt.org/>. Shane Johnson in our Revere Parent Information Center can also provide assistance. You can reach him at sjohnson@reverek12.org

COVID-19

With warmer weather upon us and the state's reopening process underway, we understand that many youth and families are spending more time outside their homes and may be finding themselves taking a more relaxed approach to guidance on social distancing, hand hygiene and wearing masks. We are urging you to remain vigilant to help us avoid a second surge of cases in Revere. As you make decisions about potential exposures to the virus, **please remember that the health risks related to Covid-19 have not changed**; that adults over the age of 65 and those with underlying conditions are most likely to experience serious complications; and that asymptomatic individuals can transmit the virus to other, more vulnerable individuals.

City Resources

If your family is in need of assistance or has any other needs (example: additional food, support, medicine), please call Revere 311 which is available Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am-6:00 pm, or the Massachusetts 211 hotline, which is available 24 hours a day and in multiple languages.

In closing, I hope you will stay connected to us throughout the summer. Although that is typically a time when our communication decreases, we will have a great number of decisions to make in the coming months and need your input to ensure we are making decisions that serve the needs of as many students as possible.

Be well,

