



# MONTVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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April 22, 2020

Dear Montville Public Schools Families,

I hope you were able to spend some relaxing time with your family last week during our spring break. I have several items which I would like to communicate to you, but let me first say that we miss your students so very much! We appreciate your patience as we build our distance learning program; we continue to use feedback to improve, and we welcome your ideas and suggestions!

**Distance Learning** – Our distance learning program is well underway at this point. Teachers and principals have worked hard to provide support and resources for students. We are anxious to address any concerns which you have about your student's progress. Please contact your child's teacher or school principal if you are experiencing difficulty, and they can connect you to the appropriate resource. We are currently working on plans for grading students and any related changes to their report cards and will provide those decisions to you soon. We are also preparing contingency plans for end-of-year ceremonies and graduation in the event that we are not able to hold large gatherings in June. Our Board and administrators have started to plan for staff and students' re-entry to school. While I am very proud of the work which our staff has done to transition to a distance learning program, I am eagerly awaiting the time when we can safely return to classrooms. We are committed to ensuring that return provides for the physical safety of our community and meets the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students.

**Devices** – We have distributed iPads to students in grades pK-1 and Chromebooks to students in grades 2-12. If your child still does not have a device, I will be available Thursday afternoon from 4:00-5:45 at Central Office. You can make an appointment to pick up a device by e-mailing [esupport@montvilleschools.org](mailto:esupport@montvilleschools.org)

**Meal Distribution** – Our food services workers have been doing a tremendous job preparing and distributing meals. If you would like to thank them for their work, [click here](#) for a flyer which one of our families created with a great idea for surprising the workers when you come to pick up meals.

**Census 2020** – The Town of Montville is working hard to ensure that all residents are counted so that our town gets its accurate share of the billions of dollars in federal funding that will flow into U.S. communities every year for the next decade. For every person in Connecticut who is not counted, an estimated \$2,900 will be lost. An undercount would have significant impacts on education, health, and public works that affect us all. Please help to ensure a complete count. Click [Take the 2020 Census Now](#) to be counted.

**Budget for 2020-2021** – The Town Council is holding two public hearings tonight and tomorrow night. Click for information on remote access to tonight's [Public Hearing on the General Government Budget](#) and tomorrow's [Public Hearing on the Board of Education Budget](#). Both meetings are at 6:00.

In closing, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions or suggestions.

Stay healthy and thank you so much for the support which you have expressed to me and our staff.

*Laurie Pallin*

Superintendent of Schools