



April 2020

District Administrator

Digital/Distant Learning

Thank you, students, families, and district employees for your continued efforts to support the School District of New London.

As we enter the fourth week of digital/distant learning, I am hopeful students and parents/guardians are becoming comfortable with established learning platforms and routines. Just as the phrase states, "Rome was not built in a day," our instructional delivery with students and families will continue to evolve to meet the needs of our school community every day.

Digital/Distant learning will continue through Thursday, April 30, unless directives from the State of Wisconsin or Federal government alter the end date.

I encourage parents/guardians to have frequent and open communication with District staff as necessary. Let us all do our part to mitigate COVID-19 from our community, state, and country. Our collective effort is the key to success. **Stay focused, and positive!**

Our Children Are Counting On Us

During a recent podcast presented by CESA 6, strategies were shared to support children while we are currently engaged in our Digital/Distant instructional model.

IDEAS FOR HELPING CHILDREN WHILE THEY ARE HOME

- Remember that your kids are watching you. Your worries will cause them to worry!
 - Calming and loving is what your kids need you to be right now

- Focus on the positives and controllables instead of negatives and unknowns
- Establish a routine for this time while kids are home
 - It helps to keep mind and body busy - an idle mind can go from bright and optimistic to dark and scary very quickly
 - Create predictable days for your kids and create a daily schedule
- Use this as an opportunity to grow your kids and do things together
 - Practice empathy - be a leader by example by listening well
 - Here are four questions you can ask your kids to establish dialogue
 - What are you wondering about?
 - What have you heard that you want to know more about?
 - Is there anything else that you want to know more about?
 - What do you need from me?

Reinforce valid concerns and discuss what could be done

- List routines for yourself that you will implement to support yourself and those you love and serve
- Take time to journal your strategy to maintain empathy

Be 212 "The Extra Degree"

Our Be212 "The Extra Degree" recognition for April goes out to students and families from the School District of New London. Without question, our

students and families have processed through an incredible time where their educational instructional delivery has significantly been altered. Not only has educational delivery been modified, but students and families also have forgone experiences that are critical in the overall growth of our students. With the mandatory school closure for physical face-to-face instruction, students have not been able to participate in spring co-curricular experiences, which often round out academic skills. Our students' and families' ability to remain positive with learning experiences pushes our operational and instructional personnel to stay focused on creating the best possible learning experience for our school community.



Thank you to our students and families for giving the extra degree of effort to Be 212 during this unprecedented time!

Director of Business Services

Meals During Closure

Free lunch and breakfast continue to be provided to all children ages 0-18 years old during the school closure sponsored by the USDA.



We have 20 bus routes and students/parents/guardians are able to pick up lunch/breakfast at sites listed below from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

- **UCC (First Congregational United Church)-near Lincoln Elementary; 110 E. Hancock St, New London**
- **Middle School (back canopy) on school's south side, 1000 W. Washington St, New London**
- **High School (Door #23, Library/Teaching & Learning Center Entrance), 1700 Klatt Rd, New London**

At pick-up locations, a responsible student or parent can ask for the number of meals needed so small children or anyone who is ill do not have to go outside to get the meals. Group pick-ups are allowed.

This service not only keeps our students and children fed, but also cuts down the need to visit the grocery stores with fresh fruits, veggies and milk delivered to our families. Please help keep our community safe by staying safe at home if possible.

The program has been an incredible success. Each day about 1,475 meals are being served. As a comparison, this is more than we serve during a traditional school day so the need is demonstrated through participation.

A tremendous thank you to food service staff, school bus drivers, support staff members and anyone else who has been a part of this program. We are proud and thankful for everyone's efforts!



If you have any further questions, please contact the district office at (920) 982-8530 or the bus garage at (920) 982-8543.

Facility Projects

With our students not on campus, we can address several summer projects which may not have been completed until June, July, and August.

Below are projects that have begun/finished. All funds to support the project are part of the 2019-20 budget development. Note that project topics were discussed with our facilities committees in the past or have been formally approved at the Board level:



- Asbestos removal at PV/RF
- SB roof
- HS duct cleaning
- HS chiller
- HS exhaust fan repair

- MS gym floor
- MS gym automated basketball hoops
- MS terrazzo floor grind in east hall
- Several general painting, cleaning and maintenance of projects that are difficult to get to while school is in session

We will continue to complete as many projects as possible while schools are closed. There will be another round of capital projects for the Board to approve as we approach May/June and determine budget availability.

Director of Pupil Services

Maintaining Supports for Special Education

The special education department continues to provide special education services, minutes, and therapies as well as related supports to all the students in the district who are supported by an IEP (Individualized Education Plan). These therapy minutes and instructional support minutes are occurring remotely and are individualized to meet the students' specific needs.

The special education department also continues to proceed forward with hosting annual IEP (Individualized Education Plan) meetings for students. These meetings are being conducted remotely via conference calls, zoom meetings or the Google Meet platforms. We also continue to conduct special education evaluation processes on students.

The team has been communicating often via email and Google meetings to continue to support all of the students' needs and ensure they are getting the necessary support to be able to access their virtual education.



Hats off to the entire staff for their tremendous work during this process.

Bilingual Program Supports for Learning

Similar to the special education department, the bilingual staff of teachers and tutors is continuing their level of services to support our students in

need of bilingual instruction. They are frequently collaborating with the regular education teachers to ensure that our bilingual students are able to access the curriculum being presented to them and that all of their educational needs are being met.

The bilingual tutors have also been working tirelessly to translate documents and communications coming forward from the district office that provide updates for the families.



Additionally, some of these staff members have also been participating with the meal distribution for students. Kudos to this team for their incredible efforts.

Connections between Public Health and the School Nursing Program

Our school nurse, Sue Resch, and her team have been in constant communication with the Department of Health and the State Nursing Association to ensure that the district is updated daily and has all the latest information to keep our students and staff safe during this time. Our thanks for Sue Resch and her team for their extra dedication and care during this very difficult time.



Director of Teaching and Learning

Ways to Stay Connected While Staying Safe at Home

Please continue to use the following methods to stay connected to your school.

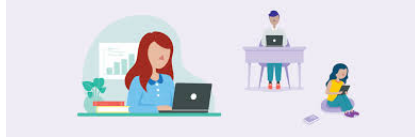
- Skyward Family Access at <https://skyward.newlondon.k12.wi.us/scripts/wsisa.dll/WService=wsEAPlus/fwemnu01.w>
- SDNL FB page at <https://tinyurl.com/tru5wfk>
- Access SDNL app at <https://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/gomobile/index.cfm>
- SDNL webpage at <https://www.newlondon.k12.wi.us/> click on

top red bar and scroll down for forms.

Email teachers and administrators if you have questions or concerns at any time.

Extensions for Learning

If families do have technology, the following are great ways to continue learning:



- [Audible](#) - access to read alouds for families during COVID 19
- [Brain Pop](#) - videos and lessons
- [Epic](#)- digital books
- [Mystery Science](#) - Science lessons and videos *[Directions for Families](#)
- [Reading A-Z and Raz Plus](#) - Free for all for the rest of the year, help in reading
- [Scholastic](#) - New At Home Learning all content areas
- [Time for Kids](#) - Open Licensing for news and learning activities

State Assessments and Accountability Reports



At this time, all state assessments have been canceled for the remainder of the school year. As a result, district and school accountability

reports will also be modified. Growth scores will not be valid for a few years as well as a result of this state closure.

Students who did complete the ACT during our first session will be sent a score report directly from ACT. Access scores will also be available to those who took Access testing this year. We will look to share a local report for our district next year that assists in understanding our programs and success.

Assuring Access For ALL

During this unprecedented time, our goal for students is to assure they continue to have access to what they need. This includes school lunch, emotional support, and learning activities. It also means extending learning for those wanting more

and modifying expectations for those who are overwhelmed. Demonstrating our dedication to Success for ALL Students efforts are highlighted below.

Access to food: Our District commitment to providing healthy meals to all children residing in our community has been recognized and appreciated by our surrounding communities.

Access to learning materials: Students in grades 1-12 were provided a chromebook to support learning and communication. When internet challenges were present, we purchased additional hotspot devices to support families. We continue to provide access to our regular curriculum with further enhancements to some of our purchased content.

Access to staff and support: Each of our buildings maintains essential staff to provide support, copies, and supplies to all our families. Students with a need for paper copies have been able to get them via bus routes. Students needing counseling or other specific services are also able to continue during this time.

Continued support for staff: This time is also stressful for our staff. As an administrative team, we are working to streamline communication as well as offer ongoing support for staff as they transition to digital and distance learning.

Student achievement, staff capacity and efficiency remain at the heart of what we do during this time. Sincere thanks to all who support the efforts. It has never been a better time to be a Bulldog. Should a family, student, staff or community member have questions or concerns, please encourage them to reach out.