



**Office of Superintendent**

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May 4, 2020

Dear MJSD Families,

I hope you were able to get out and enjoy the summer like weather we had this past weekend. This week is Staff Appreciation Week and I'm sure they would appreciate a personal message from you and/or your child(ren).

Here is our weekly update for the first week of May. This letter connects you with several resources that we have developed and continue to refine as we move forward. Thank you for your efforts and attention to these matters. We appreciate our partnership with you and look forward to continuing to work with you.

**MJSD continues student online/at-home learning**

The Menasha Joint School District will continue online/at-home learning, building on the successes we have seen in recent weeks. We are learning how to connect and support learning for all through an online/at-home learning model and we will get better at it with time. Please give yourself and each other the grace to learn as we go. We are passionate about doing all we can to strengthen relationships with our students, who remain our #1 priority. Follow this [link](#) for an update on instructional practices moving forward. You should have received a letter last week regarding grading for second semester. For your reference, the [letter](#) is posted on the COVID-19 website.

Summer school information and registration can be found [here](#).

**School meals continue to be provided**

Free meals for **all families** will continue to be handed out to all students Monday through Friday from 11:00am – 12:30pm at five sites. On Fridays, we will be handing out dinner for Friday and lunch and breakfast for Saturday and Sunday. Bags will include lunch and the following day's breakfast. No forms or registration is required. Parents/guardians can pick up the meals without their children present. We encourage families to practice social distancing and not congregate at the meal pickup locations. We are currently averaging over 1700 meals per day and sending home over 6000 meals on Fridays for the weekend. See the food service update on our COVID-19 website.

**Social/emotional wellbeing is a priority**

We care about the social/emotional wellbeing of our students and staff. There are many resources available on our [district website](#). Counselors, Social Workers, and Psychologists are available to support your student or family during this closure. You may contact them via email or phone. The contact information can be found on the individual school websites. Many students have the option to continue with their therapists virtually. If you have a student struggling with mental health, please contact your school counselor. MHS students can use the

student check-in form on the school website. School nurses are available via email and phone to confer about student needs.

### **Technology assistance is available**

If your students are struggling with MJSD technology, please fill out this form for help:  
MJSD [Technology Support Form](#).

### **Content Filtering for Students**

Questions have come up regarding content filtering for the students while at home. MJSD is using a product called Securly for filtering and reporting on sites students are accessing. In an effort to keep our students safe, these reports are monitored 24/7 and any action related to the reports will be addressed daily during normal working hours of 8am to 4pm.

### **Chromebook pickup or swap**

We will continue to distribute Chromebooks for families who have not picked one up on Wednesdays from 9am to 11am at the MHS Auto Shop (northwest corner of the building). We will also swap out Chromebooks for families who are having issues with their current MJSD technology.

### **Pickup of personal belongings and At-Home book bags**

We will schedule times during the week of May 11th for families to pick up any remaining materials and personal belongings they left at school before our buildings were closed in mid-March. We will also distribute At-Home book bags at this time. Your student will be receiving a book bag that contains reading books at their reading level or grade level for them to continue reading at home. These are books for you to keep at home and do not need to be returned to school.

### **Graduation**

We intend to have a graduation ceremony for our seniors at some time later in the summer; however, we are planning a virtual ceremony for Thursday, June 4th. We are still awaiting guidance from the State regarding what we will be able to do. Watch for details about other spring events coming directly from your schools.

Please check our [website](#) for additional resources and updates. We will continue to provide major updates to you each Monday. Thank you for your support of our students in their learning and warm wishes to your family.

Sincerely,

*Chris L. VanderHeyden*

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Superintendent