March 31, 2020

Dear Quincy Public Schools High School Parents and Guardians,

Now that Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker has ordered that all schools will be closed until May 4, 2020, the Quincy Public Schools will implement curriculum continuity for student education within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE) Guidance on Remote Learning shared with school districts on March 26 and 27. Launching our Remote Learning plan to reach our over 9,900 students with 850 professional staff members collaborating with principals and administrators is a complex challenge. As we all know, remote learning cannot reasonably replace daily in-person instructional programs and we will not attempt to replicate the regular school day.

Our remote student learning plan will continue the engagement of students in developmentally appropriate ways, while being mindful of the challenges students and families face with technology, health, disability, and language challenges. Our plan includes the continued use of paper learning packets, video broadcasts, lessons/assignments and learning materials posted to platforms that students and educators have a comfort level with. Assignments will be graded within the DESE guidelines as Credit/Non-Credit, very similar to Pass/Fail.

We are working with and following the guiding principles I shared with you last week in conjunction with adopting the remote learning model set forth by DESE Education Commissioner Riley, who has mandated that school districts work together to plan and adopt a remote learning model. The model will differ at each level (Pre-Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle, and High School) and include all of our academic classroom, academic program, and academic support staff.

This week, high school staff will be preparing coursework that provides opportunity for review and begins to move the curriculum forward beginning on Monday, April 6. Teachers will begin the process of contacting students to share details regarding curriculum plans moving forward. If your high school student has issues with regular access to technology, please follow this link to request to borrow a QPS chromebook: https://fs30.formsite.com/lauraowens/ytv0bd13q/index.html.

All staff members will communicate through Quincy Public Schools email accounts and respond in a timely manner during regular school hours to student or parent emails. Once again, I thank you for your patience during this unprecedented time in all of our lives.

Sincerely,

Richard DeCristofaro, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools