



March 24, 2020

Dear Palisades Community,

As you are most likely aware, the Governor announced schools will remain closed until April 6th and I wanted to let you know that work is well underway to prepare for online learning opportunities for our students in the near future.

As mentioned yesterday, our teachers will participate in virtual professional development beginning tomorrow with their building administrators and colleagues to fine-tune how instruction will be delivered and students will be supported. Especially for our youngest learners and their teachers, this is a new horizon, and we appreciate your patience as we work through this process.

DISTRICT INFORMATION:

Chromebook Distribution/Repairs: We are working on filling the 405 requests we have received thus far for our elementary school students who are in need of a chromebook. As I write this message, 291 chromebooks have been distributed. If you have not yet placed your reservation to receive one, you may do so by completing this form - [Elementary Chromebook Request Form](#)

If you are unable to complete the form, you may contact Donna Holmes at 610-847-5131, ext. 2401 so that we can get the request placed for the needed device.

We are working on distributing email and password information to parents/guardians for their elementary school-aged children. The information will be sent via email to individual families.

ALSO NOTE: We are trying to assess the number of families who DO NOT HAVE reliable internet service. If you do not have access to the internet, or you know of a student who does not have internet service, please call (or have the child's parent/guardian) call 610-847-5131, ext. 2401. We will try to work with you to assist to the best of our ability.

Again, chromebooks are being distributed at Tinicum Elementary School and Palisades High School during the hours of 11AM - 12:30PM this week only.. Your children need not be present to pick up the chromebooks, however, a form of identification will be required.

As a reminder, in preparation for online learning, if your student has a chromebook that is in need of repair (grades K-12), we will schedule a time for parents/guardians to drop off the chromebook in need of repair and pick up another. Here is a link to the form that all parents/guardians or students (grades K-12) should fill out for chromebook repairs. Swapping chromebooks that are in need of repair are accommodated by appointment ONLY: <http://cbrepair.palisd.org>

To sanitize your device, please use a "rung out" disinfectant wipe (ie. Clorox wipe) or a 70% isopropyl alcohol wipe on the device, being careful not to get moisture into ports or too much on the keyboard.

Also, 70% isopropyl rubbing alcohol can be used with a soft rag to clean the parts of the Chromebook, again being sure not to saturate the rag.

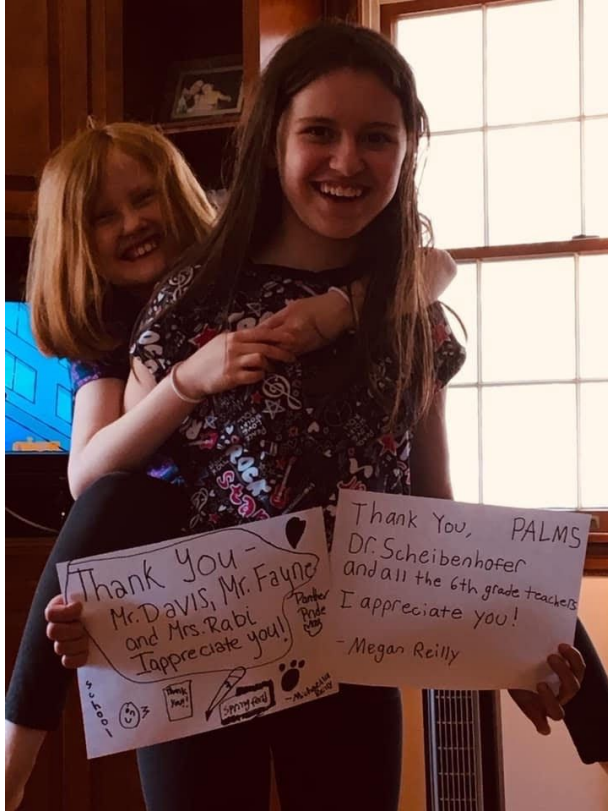
Lunch/Breakfast Distributions for Students: We are continuing to distribute FREE breakfast and lunch “go bags” at Palisades High School for students only who qualify for Free and Reduced Lunches, and serving all students at Tinicum Elementary School. Bags are being distributed at these locations from 11AM until 12:30PM Monday through Friday during this district closure.

Please stay in your vehicle when picking up your food items. You will be asked to provide your name when picking up food items at the high school.

If you feel as though your family may now qualify for Free and Reduced Lunches, please go to this website to complete the application www.paschoolmeals.com - allow 24 hours after submission of application for notification of approval.

School Board Meetings: At this time, the next regularly scheduled Board meeting will occur on April 1, 2020. More information regarding the details of the meeting including public participation, the meeting agenda and format are forthcoming. Other meeting dates for April:

- April 1 - Policy Committee - CANCELLED
- April 8 - Education Programs and Services - CANCELLED
- April 15 - Fiscal Committee - 6PM
- April 15 - Regular School Board Meeting - 7PM
- April 16 - Joint Operating Committee (Tech School) 7PM
- April 22 - Facilities Committee - 6:30PM
- April 22 - Athletic Committee - 7:30PM



#palislearns Students sharing the love!

COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

Earned Income Tax Deadline Postponed: As in years past, the local EIT filing deadline always aligned with the Federal and State filing deadlines. You are likely aware that the PA Department of Revenue announced this morning that Pennsylvania's filing deadlines were indeed extended to July 15, like the Federal deadlines. For local EIT purposes, Keystone is accordingly extending the Individual filing deadlines to match the State and Federal date of July 15, 2020. We will not apply penalty and interest on Tax Year 2019 Final Return payments until after July 15.



April 3
8 am – 4 pm

April 4
6:30 am – 1 pm

April 5
6:30 am – 1 pm

Miller-Keystone Blood Center
1465 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA 18017

**St. Luke's University Health Network and the
Lehigh Valley IronPigs are partnering with
Miller-Keystone to host a blood drive!**

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, blood supplies have become critically low. Please support our upcoming blood drive. During this time and because of social distancing, we ask that you please make an appointment.

Follow this link to make an appointment:

<https://go.activecalendar.com/sluhn/event/st-lukes-and-ironpigs-blood-drive-at-miller-keystone/>

Blood Donations: Many blood drives are being canceled, however if you are healthy, please consider contacting these organizations to donate: Miller Keystone Blood Center - <https://www.giveapint.org/> - and the American Red Cross - www.redcross.org - are accepting donations. Please contact them directly to schedule your appointment.

Lord's Pantry in Ottsville is in need of donations of the following items - paper products, soap, baby wipes, diapers, Chunky Soups, canned meats, fresh fruits, bagged salads, and any protein items (other than peanut butter). The pantry is open on Mondays from 2-5PM, Tuesdays 9:30-11:30AM, and Thursdays 9:30AM-1:30PM.

Palisades Community Foundation (PCF) is accepting monetary donations to help support needs for families in the district - helping to support meals for senior citizens, providing assistance to the Pantry in Ottsville, or other opportunities for our families in the district.

Checks can be made payable to Palisades Community Foundation and mailed to P.O. Box 194, Kintnersville, PA 18930 or you can visit www.palisadescommunityfoundation.org - your donations are welcome in any amount and they are tax deductible.

Once again, thank you for your support of our schools and personnel as we gear up for our next steps! Stay well and be safe!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget O'Connell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Bridget O'Connell, Superintendent

Email Your Questions: Responses to items that come through this account will either be included in the daily briefing if they relate to a broader issue or will receive a direct response within 36 hours of receipt. Please use this address for questions and comments related to the current closure closureconcerns@palisd.org