March 30, 2020

Greetings Dear Auburndale District Families,

I want to start by thanking you, thank you for your patience, your encouragement and your understanding as we all continue to adjust to the situation our community, our nation, our world, finds itself in. Your positivity and kindness continues to be a central source of pride in what it is to be a part of this great community! We continue to work hard at the District to make sure we are doing all we can to continue our calling, to care for and educate our children.

This is a learning process for all of us, and we continue to assess and re-evaluate our practices to make sure we are supporting you in the best ways possible to support and love the students and families of our district. We have used our survey results, as well as less formal data, to adjust and improve our instructional framework during this time of building closure. We will send another survey to families Tuesday, March 31 and ask you to get that information back to us to inform our decision making. After talking to teachers, students and families we have already made the following adjustments to our practices;

- the daily attendance form will no longer be used, attendance will be accounted for by the work that is turned in by students, and by teacher contact with students,
- 4th quarter grades at the 4k-8th grade will be on a pass/fail basis. High School subjects will continue to be graded, but allowing for great patience and understanding of our shared situation,
- Teachers will use 4th quarter grades in a “help, but not harm” way. We cannot account for all that you and your student might be going through during this crisis, and we do not want the situation to harm the semester grades for our students. As long as students are doing their best and participating at their fullest potential the 4th quarter grade will be counted only as an assistance to the semester grade for the course,
- All seniors in good standing will graduate on May 15, but the district ceremony for this accomplishment will be postponed until it is safe to hold, if necessary to do so,
- Catch up days, like we are using now in the 6-12th grades, will occur as deemed necessary by administration,
- the district will continue to evaluate and reevaluate our program to ensure that we are doing all we can to care for and provide for our students.
- Food Service pick up will continue for all students that need it, on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week, including during our Spring Holiday weekend.
We fully realize that this is a trying time for all of us. We will continue to practice patience and understanding, and we ask you to do the same. If you have concerns or great ideas please contact your teachers and/or your administrators and let them know! We are all in this together and we know we are all here to hold each other up as we continue to grow and learn together.

Continue to watch your email for more information from us. On a fun note I am happy to report that the Student Leadership class has finished up the new expanded list of Mascot finalists for us to ponder. The district will be sending out a ballot to every household soon to get your input on this important decision. A special thank you to the student leaders who worked so hard to gather input and narrow down the list for us. Like all of our students, they are a very impressive and hard working group of kids!

I wish you all the best and continue to hold each of you, each of my students and staff members in my thoughts as we continue to move forward in this unprecedented time. I hope very much that I will hear the hallways filled with the joy of your children’s voices again, though I realize it will at least be a few more weeks before that happens. We will continue to do all we can to promote health, growth and peace in our students and our community.

Very Sincerely,

Mr. James Delikowski
District Administrator
School District of Auburndale
Auburndale, WI