



April 1, 2020

Dear District 88 Families,

As always, I hope our correspondence is finding you and your families safe and healthy. As of today, all Illinois schools remain closed due to **COVID-19 through April 30, 2020**. At this time our exact return date is unclear. We will continue to provide updates as they are made available. Last week we hosted virtual meetings with our leadership from our district and our schools to make plans for how we move forward with continuous learning at Bellwood School District 88. This meeting was a chance for BSD88 district staff, principals and leadership to discuss and collaborate on the district's plan for E-Learning and remote instruction during our school closure window.

Families can continue to expect guidance from teachers and school administration in the coming days. Our virtual meetings are similar to the others being held across the district - such as PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and, in some cases, by entire schools and teachers. In fact, our upcoming Regular Board Meeting on April 6 will be held virtually. The community can access that meeting by visiting our website on that evening. On our website, you can access all of our COVID-19 resources and our E-Learning Plan for parents who, like all of us, are navigating a "new normal" for educating our students at home. Kudos to the Curriculum and Technology team who compiled the resources and made them available via our district website.

We will continue to add more to our website as we progress through these unprecedented times. Our teachers continue to do amazing work connecting with students online and supporting their learning at home, thank you teachers! Some other bright spots of collaborative stakeholdership include:

- On March 30 and April 1, we distributed over 700 meals to families within our school community. We will continue to distribute food weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout this pandemic.

- We are also planning to distribute **Chromebooks on April 2 and April 6**. Please check our website for more details about distribution locations, dates and times.
- The district has heard positive feedback from parents and staff! Thank you.

Lastly, we encourage all community members, students, and families to be vigilant and follow all of the “stay at home order” provisions provided by Gov. Pritzker. We acknowledge that this is a sacrifice and together we can do our small part to help keep our community safe and healthy. I hope knowing that these choices we make are for the well-being of our entire state and country. I would like to thank the entire community and all BSD88 stakeholders for supporting all our schools and teachers with positive and constructive feedback during this closure.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M.A. Holder", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark A. Holder, Ed.S.
Superintendent