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"We are committed to developing a community of learners who are academically proficient, demonstrate strong character and exhibit self-confidence."

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Staff - New Bedford Public Schools
FR: Thomas Anderson, Superintendent
DT: Tuesday, March 24, 2020
RE: NBPS COVID-19 Update

In response to the current COVID-19 crisis and the recent advisory issued by Governor Baker on Monday, March 23, 2020, New Bedford Public Schools will be reducing the number of essential personnel on NBPS sites. Effective March 24, 2020, supervisors will communicate with essential staff to review the expectations.

During the COVID-19 closure our focus remains at prioritizing the following:

1. Promote safety of all students and staff
2. Have continuity of the teaching and learning process during the suspension of classes
3. Provide meals for New Bedford students while school is not in session
4. Consistent communication to update staff and families on any changes
5. Effective processes and operations to support the above priorities including cleaning, security, and business operations including payroll and benefits

Employees needed to accomplish our current priorities had already been designated as Essential Staff. Supervisors will be revisiting this communication to provide logistical details regarding work expectations. Beginning March 24, 2020, central administration will be operating with a modified team but will remain open.

Effective communication is critical, and it is expected that routine communication processes be refined to ensure there are frequent check-ins. The following work expectations will be in place March 24, 2020 – April 7, 2020. If the timeline for school closure is extended, that new information will be communicated at that time.

These changing conditions are especially challenging and stressful for us all. We will continue to revise our response levels as conditions warrant and further advisory guidance is provided in the coming days. There is no template or script for this unique set of circumstances. However, your understanding, flexibility and patience have been encouraging and most appreciated. We will continue to support one another through consistent communication and collaboration.

File:NBPS COVID-19 Update 3.24.20

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