



The Public Schools of Brookline

Town Hall

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Ben Lummis

Interim Superintendent

March 25, 2020

Dear PSB Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I hope that this email finds you and your loved ones safe. The sudden school closure has forced all of us to seek a new equilibrium. Absent the familiar and important connections we enjoyed on a daily basis in our school communities, I hope that you and your family have been able to establish new daily routines and are staying healthy, both physically and mentally, during this trying time.

Earlier this afternoon Governor Baker announced an extension of the school closure order: ***All PK-12 schools in Massachusetts are now closed until Monday, May 4.*** Tomorrow, Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley will be providing superintendents and school districts with further guidance on the type of teaching and learning that should occur during this extended closure. We will review the information from the Commissioner closely and determine how it will impact the great work already underway and what will be necessary to support our students. We will provide further details to the PSB community as we know them.

The PSB strongly supports the Governor's robust efforts to protect all of us from the COVID-19 pandemic, but recognize that this extended closure is another challenge we must face together.

Before the Governor's announcement, today was a busy day here in the school district:

- Teachers, special educators, guidance counselors, school leaders, and others were connecting with and providing resources to students across all schools in ways too numerous to mention or quantify.
- Our staff distributed 225 Chromebooks to students in need (this is in addition to the 175 that were distributed last week).
- PSB's food services staff prepared and distributed 156 "Grab & Go" breakfast/lunch orders for PSB families who are facing food insecurity.

I encourage you to continue checking the [Town of Brookline](#) and [PSB](#) webpages for information related to COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we work together during this time of great uncertainty and constant change.

With great care and concern for all of us,

Ben Lummis
Interim Superintendent