



**Regional School Unit 13  
Office of the Superintendent**

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Dear Families of Our RSU 13 Community:

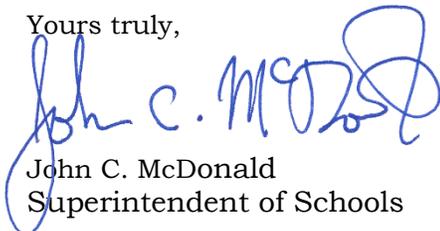
It has been three weeks now since we have closed our school buildings in response to the pandemic and by order of Governor Mills. For our teachers, staff and administrators, however, work has continued with much determination, energy and creativity in the task supporting our students and families. With very short notice, we mobilized and not only have been providing meals for children on a daily basis, but have designed emergency learning opportunities for students, and maintained connections with them in ever increasingly creative ways. Much credit goes to our staff in rising to meet this very challenging situation, and my thanks go out to you, the parents and care givers, in working with us to help support the children during this difficult time.

We have been busy preparing meals for the children in the RSU 13 community. Many workers from other departments have willingly pitched in and helped make it happen! Last week we served almost 3,000 meals! To better serve your children, starting Monday, April 6, 2020, we will be closing the Oceanside High School and Cushing Community School pick up sites. If you are currently using these sites for your children's meals, please pick up at either Oceanside Middle School or South School. If you are unable to utilize either of these sites, please go to arrange delivery at [www.rsu13.org/OrderLunch](http://www.rsu13.org/OrderLunch) where instructions are located. It takes at least one full day to make sure a delivery location is added, so request soon! If you have no internet, you can leave a message at 596-2002, or email [orderlunch@rsu3.org](mailto:orderlunch@rsu3.org).

Last night, after listening to Commissioner of Education, Pender Makin, speak in a state-wide conference call, I believe we must now prepare for the eventuality that schools may not reopen this year. For our part, we are continuing to work on ways to support student learning, and our virtual system is preparing itself to evolve as well. I want to emphasize that this is Emergency Learning, and is not designed to replace in a realistic way, our regular curriculum and support system. We are doing the best we can, as I know you are as well, at home. There are still many questions to answer, but please stay in touch with us and look for future communications. At this time, we have determined that April Break, April 20 to 24, is still scheduled, and though we will be providing meals for the children, our teachers will be pausing their schedules as had been previously set by the school calendar.

I want you all to know, that like the title of our recent video, "We are Here for You." I sincerely believe that our darkest hour will eventually be our finest hour as we work together to support our children and ourselves in this emergency. Please know that we care deeply about you and your children, and will work tirelessly to find solutions to the difficulties and challenges that are facing us.

Yours truly,



John C. McDonald  
Superintendent of Schools

PS: Check out our latest video, Student Voices! <https://youtu.be/6J3Hal550aE>