



BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2297 Main Street

Bethlehem, New Hampshire 03574

Telephone (603) 869-5842 Fax (603) 869-2482

bethlehem.k12.nh.us

Sue Greenlaw, Principal

November 12, 2020

Dear BES Families,

The decision to switch to remote learning was not an easy one and done with safety in mind. As we watch the news and hear of local schools dealing with infections, we needed to consider the safety of everyone. We have all loved having the students back in the building where they have been thriving but discovering that we have a case in the building was a wake-up call. Between the in house case, the rising numbers throughout the state and the approach of the holiday season, we felt this was the only safe decision. We also considered the difficulty that bouncing from remote instruction to face to face instruction and back to remote was not in the best interest of anyone. It was for that reason that we switched to remote until mid-January.

I do have some important information to share with you. Breakfasts and lunches will be available for pick up at BES beginning on Monday, November 16. Please reach out to Nicole Kerstetter by tomorrow at 10:00 AM if you are interested in getting lunches and breakfasts. Once I have a list of interested people, we will reach out to give you pick up times. We have no food service people until November 20 so Profile's food service program will be preparing meals which I will bring back to BES for pick up.

Distance learning families will now continue as distance learners until January 15. If you plan to have your child return at that point, please let me know by January 4. If you are unable to follow the remote teaching schedule provided by your child's teacher, you have the option of choosing distance learning. Our distance learners are using Time 4 Learning which is a home school program. You could sign up for this program which has a cost of \$19.95 per month. You would pay up front and the school will reimburse you monthly if you get your receipt to Lisa Brown. Distance learning provides more flexibility which I understand may be necessary.

We will be taking attendance every day based on your child's participation in Google meets. If your child is sick and can't participate, just let the teacher know. We will still have snow days since many teachers are delivering instruction from school and won't be able to get here if the roads are bad. PLEASE ensure that your child is part of the class activities because we have to report attendance concerns. If you need guidance understanding how to support your child, please reach out because we will happily help in any way. If you need a quick lesson, we can make that happen. Teachers are letting me know if kids aren't participating so we can reach out to you to offer assistance. This is new for all of us!!!

Our distance learning/retake picture day was scheduled for Monday the 16th of November. This will now happen after we return to face to face instruction. As soon as we have a scheduled date, we will let you know.

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Sue