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ETIWANDA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE TO FAMILIES

March 18, 2020

Information pertaining to COVID-19 is fluid. Frequent updates will be posted to our District website which can be found at www.etiwanda.org and on our social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter). We encourage you to check these platforms regularly.

Thank you parents/guardians for your patience and flexibility as we continue to develop ways to support our students and families during this time. We appreciate the positive feedback and suggestions that have been shared with us.

NEW! Chromebook Check-out Available on Thursday 3/19 For Those That Did Not Pick-Up Today – Today we distributed thousands of Chromebooks to our Etiwanda students through our check-out process at Grapeland Elementary located at 7171 Etiwanda Ave. We had hundreds of Chromebooks prepared by staff volunteers, members of our Instructional Media Center and Technology Dept. for distribution this morning, but that number was exhausted within hours.

Our school administrators began to dismantle classroom sets of Chromebooks throughout the day and deliver them to Grapeland to continue distribution. Unfortunately, this meant that cleaning the Chromebooks prior to distribution was not possible, and we apologize for this. Information provided by the National Institute of Health, indicates the COVID-19 virus lives up to 2-3 days on hard surfaces. The Chromebooks issued have not been used since last Friday, five days ago. Chromebooks can be cleaned with a 50/50 vinegar and water solution. Please spray the solution onto a soft cloth and wipe the Chromebook.

A reminder that Chromebooks are for students who have no other internet accessible device at home. Students can access their [etiwanda.org](http://www.etiwanda.org) Google account (Gmail, Drive, Classroom, etc.) using any electronic device with access to the internet.

The process for Chromebook Check-out is that parents/guardians will arrive at Grapeland Elementary School and be directed to the main parking lot for pick-up. Parent/guardians should remain in their vehicle and wait for district staff to assist them.

Check-out Schedule: 8am-10am: Last Names A-G
10am-12pm (noon): Last Names H-N
12pm (noon)-2pm: Last Names O-Z

If a parent/guardian is unable to pick up a Chromebook due to their own illness, they can send an older child, another family member, or neighbor. Please send a signed note giving permission to check out a Chromebook without the parent/guardian being present. Please include a phone number for confirmation.

Distance Learning Plans were posted to teacher websites today. Please check your child's teacher website for daily lessons. Participating in distance learning lessons is an opportunity for our students to practice becoming 21st Century learners. As we explore options for teaching and learning online, we are also providing opportunities for our students to learn vital skills such as self-regulation, time management, and organization. For many of our students, this will be their first experience having to manage their own learning in such a way. Together we can support students in developing the skills and habits necessary in order to be successful in the global digital society they will enter as adults.

Spring Break March 23 -27 will continue as scheduled. Distance learning plans will not be provided by teachers during this time. This may be a good time to explore some of the many new resources now available online for virtual museum visits, Google Earth exploration, free coding classes, or how-to videos to make up for some of the trips your family may have planned.

“Grab and Go” meals continue to be available for children ages 18 and under between 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on weekdays during the weeks of March 17 - 20 and March 30 - April 3 at the locations listed on our district website. Children must be present in the vehicle when picking up meals.