
the

CHARTER SCHOOL

March 20, 2020

Dear Charter Families:

I started off my day listening to Chelsea's virtual Morning Meeting Friday song. I then attended a Zoom Kindergarten dance party. I continue to be amazed at the remarkable work of our teachers, students, families and Island community members during this unprecedented time.

This week, Lori reminded her students of the words of Mr. Rogers. He said, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me: "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." These words certainly held true this week as we saw Betsy and Marie working to help our families have bag lunches. We saw our friends at the West Tisbury School welcome our families to their food distribution center. We saw families and teachers developing new and creative ways to keep our community engaged. I understand that the new restrictions present a significant hardship for our families, our hospitals, our town agencies and the Island as a whole. From what we have seen thus far, there is no doubt in my mind that we will get through this together.

Island-wide information can be found at the website for Duke's County. Please click [here](#). Below, please find some more important information.

Health and Wellness

Practice effective [social distancing](#) practices. This includes staying in one's home and not meeting in groups. I know how challenging this is to accomplish, but we are all banding together for an essential purpose.

We will be updating our website with information relating to COVID-19. Please bookmark and continually reference the page [MVPCS COVID-19](#).

Academics

Charter School students will not make up school days lost during our closure beyond June 29th.

*Students will **not** be expected to engage in graded distance learning activities. We will continue to share digitally a variety of rich, **optional**, non-graded learning activities for students. This is not an expectation as part of our curriculum; we just want to keep your child engaged.*

The State has recently developed a partnership with WGBH. To explore their resources, please click [WGBH Learning Resources](#).

DESE has shared that it will, at present, postpone MCAS testing. Additional guidance is anticipated and I will share this information with our community.

— *the* —

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Chromebooks

If your child is in need of a Chromebook, please email me directly at psteadman@mvpcs.org. I am investigating if we can distribute to those in need.

Food Distribution

In collaboration with the MV Food Equity Network, MV Community Services has created a list of ongoing food resources and added it to their website. This includes school lunch schedules, senior meal programs, food pantries and other adjustments that have been made to accommodate meal pick-ups during this time:

<https://www.mvcommunityservices.org/food-resources-during-covid-19/>

Please note that there are food order forms that need to be filled out for Up-Island and Edgartown School pickup.

As we head into the weekend, it is essential that we all take a deep breath. We are all doing our best to ensure that our community comes out of this stronger than before. Thank you for your continued support of the Charter School. I look forward to the day when we are all on Main Street together again.

Sincerely,



Pete Steedman, Ed. D.