

March 19, 2020

Dear Walpole Public School Community,

We hope that you are doing well as we continue to navigate through this difficult time. While these last couple of weeks have been tough, I am grateful to the overwhelming number of parents and staff who have offered their support and encouragement. I am also proud to work alongside Walpole teachers and staff who have been committed to meeting the needs of all students. During these past few days, our administrative team and staff worked to create a plan to move us forward. Our highest priority is to support families and students during this extended closure.

I am writing today because starting tomorrow you (or your child) may experience an increase in communication from teachers and school staff. Depending on your child's grade level, the resources, materials, and learning tools that will help each student (and family) access learning at home may look different. However, the two primary goals remain consistent:

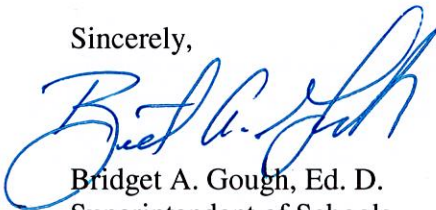
- to promote school connectedness, and
- to promote a continuity of learning to extend and apply skills in ways that will be valuable when we return to school

We don't expect this to look like traditional instruction, and it will never replace the face-to-face learning experience. However, we do hope it will support each student to stay connected to learning, school, and their peers. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or principal if you have any questions or needs in the coming days or weeks. Staff will be checking email daily, and it is important that we continue the positive relationships between home and school.

I am sure we can collectively agree that there are times when these changing events have felt overwhelming and stressful. Please be patient as we embark on uncharted territories. I am confident that we will continue to work together to support the needs of our students, and just as importantly, each other.

Stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bridget A. Gough".

Bridget A. Gough, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools