



Alden Central School District

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May 15, 2020

Dear Alden CSD Student, Families and Staff:

I hope that this communication finds you safe and well. Over the last two months the lives of our students, parents, caregivers, teachers, and support staff have been turned upside down due to COVID-19. Despite all of the challenges, each of you have put your best foot forward and done an amazing job to make sure learning moves forward while we support the social emotional and nutritional needs of our kids and families.

Over the last two weeks we have awaited guidance on the final day of remote learning. Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.14, requires school districts to provide continuity of instruction, food distribution, and childcare for essential workers every week day during New York Pause. This order also required all NYS Public Schools to cancel any and all vacation days for students and staff, which is the reason why remote learning continued over the scheduled Spring Recess. I recently learned that Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th, does not require the District to be in session. Set your schoolwork and devices aside, take time to recognize the great sacrifices our military men and women have made for our freedoms and enjoy some family time!

These additional days of attendance over the Spring Recess will require us to adjust the end of the 2019-20 academic calendar. The final day of the school year for students and staff is Friday, June 19, 2020. Our Food Service Department will continue to provide meal distribution through Friday, June 26th.

Building level Principal's will be communicating end of year procedures, including redesigned year end celebrations, the distribution of personal belongings, medications, yearbooks, as well as the collection of school property (textbooks, library books, devices, etc.).

In the coming weeks you will be receiving the Annual Budget Newsletter. Please enjoy the many positive news stories that are featured in the publication. Additionally, several local businesses have done some remarkable things in an effort to spread good will to our students and staff over the last two months. The folks preparing and distributing meals have been surprised with a frosty treat courtesy of The Pink Cow, lunch from LaPaloma's and fresh baked goods from Bippert's Farms. Dollar Tree, Value Home Center and Tops have each donated bags for meals when our supply orders could not be met. The Whistle Stop has created a 2020 sign for families to use as a background for photographs, and the Alden Advertiser will be featuring our Senior Class in an upcoming edition. I want to thank each of these businesses for their support and commitment to our Alden community!

This was not the way any of us wanted or anticipated the 2019-2020 school year closing out. Please, in the near future, take time to reflect on and celebrate the successes of this year. Think about the shifts you were able to make in teaching and learning, the family connections that have been made stronger, and how our entire community has rallied through these difficult times. Collectively, as a team your efforts will have a positive impact on our students as well as one another for years to come. You each have embraced the Alden Bulldog spirit and I appreciate all of your efforts.

Stay well and stay safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam Stoltman', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Adam Stoltman
Superintendent of Schools