



Rochester City School District

Every student by face and name.
Every school, every classroom. To and through graduation.

Terry J. Dade
Superintendent of Schools
Rochester City School District
131 West Broad Street
Rochester, NY 14614

March 18, 2020

Dear Teachers,

We are in uncharted waters, and the District, like all of you, is trying its best to protect and care for our students during this crisis.

Now that we have ensured our students and families are safe and fed, we are turning our focus to ensuring that students remain intellectually engaged while schools are on this indefinite break. This is where we desperately need your help. No one in the District knows what students need more than their teachers, and hearing from you may be a source of comfort for them in these troubling times.

We have been working hard to amass on-line resources for students to stay engaged in educational ways during the closure. We are providing links to these resources and other on-line programs such as Zearn, Brain Pop, and similar activity-based resources. We also will be preparing packets of age-appropriate materials to keep kids engaged, which will be available at the food distribution sites.

We know that many of you have already begun to support your students, and we appreciate all that you have been doing. We hope you will continue to reach out to students, at least a couple of times a week, via Classroom Dojo or other means that you have established. The purpose would be to maintain a connection to the kids and to suggest activities or resources that they can engage in during the closure. The unique knowledge you have of your students and their needs is a vital resource during this time.

In addition, we would also like you to keep connected with colleagues and school teams to see what resources they may be suggesting. For anyone who would like additional resources from the District, you may contact Glen VanDerwater at 585-472-0039 or Tim Johnsen at 585-471-1629.

We want to thank you, again, for everything that you do for our students, especially as we navigate these difficult circumstances.

Be well,

Terry J. Dade
Superintendent of Schools