



AGAR-BLUNT-ONIDA SCHOOL DISTRICT 58-3

"Learning for Life"

Sully Buttes Chargers

March 18, 2020

Dear ABO School Families,

Access our District Webpage for the
latest information:
www.ABO.k12.sd.us

I hope this letter finds you all healthy, and making the most of this unique challenge that we're facing. I am not surprised, but honored to work with my colleagues and the families of our incredible district to embrace the challenge and do what is best for our children. Below please find the action plan we have put together to ensure all of our students are receiving a quality education and proper nutrition. This letter addresses students K-5; middle and high school families will receive a separate letter from Mr. Chicoine. This plan will be implemented beginning next Monday, March 23rd, so please do your best to have everything ready for your child by then.

Communication:

Your teachers have made every effort to establish contact with each of you through various forms of communication. They are establishing "office hours" each day where they will be available (as well as various times of day by request) to work with you and your student using the "Zoom" platform. There is a tutorial on our website to help you create an account. Please check emails/messages often, as well as visiting our website, for any updates.

E-Learning Platform:

"SeeSaw" is an incredible on-line learning platform where all work and communication can be done in one place for each family. The goal is that parents have a "one-stop shop" to check in with their child's teachers and see what their children are doing. Your teacher will be in touch on how to set this up. Please look on our website for tutorials as well. Essentially, you will create a "Family" account as a parent, and connect to each of your students. Your children will access their class with a code provided by their teacher. You may access all of this on computers, or by downloading the Student App, and Family App on your devices. Students will each have their own account; parents will have one account and can add all of their children.

Nutrition:

Our school is dedicated to serving our children nutritious meals, which are most important during stressful times such as these. Students grades K-12 in Onida, and anyone ages 0-18 in Blunt may receive a "grab and go" meal each day, Monday through Friday. You must register for meals prior to picking them up. Please see the link on our webpage for more information. Pick-up will be at the MS/HS main entrance in Onida, and Blunt Elementary entrance in Blunt from 11:45 AM- 1:00 PM.

Resources:

We have surveyed families throughout the district, and currently have a list of students needing ipads to complete their work, or households to receive free wifi for education during the school shut-down. If you have not been contacted by Friday evening, March 19th, and are in need of either of these services, please email me directly and we'll get you connected with what you need.

Learning Expectations: We have every intention that student learning at home will be as close as possible to student learning in the building. This will only work if you become "Parents as Teachers," with daily support from our staff. K-5 students will be required to do 60 minutes of reading, 60 minutes of math, and 30 minutes or other educational activities throughout the day. Your teacher will be asking for you to help document participation. This will support our effort in reducing the time necessary to make-up days when school resumes.

Tech Issues: Many of the websites and platforms we are using are also being used by schools across the country, and you may have trouble gaining access right away. If you have trouble accessing a website or App, there are a few things you can do:

1. Try accessing the program during a different time of day
2. Delete the "cookies" on your device
3. Clear the "Cache" on your device

As questions arise, please feel free to email me anytime at amber.mikkelsen@k12.sd.us, or call (605) 769-0346. We are grateful for your patience and cooperation, and I sure do miss seeing all of your children's smiling faces! Stay healthy and use this time to build special relationships with your children and families.