



Edmeston Central School

Gary Furman, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
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March 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It appears that we have gone from snow at the beginning of the week to warm weather at the end of the week with students playing kickball, riding their bikes, and walking in front of the school. Although our community may not be directly affected by COVID-19, there are **four** diagnosed cases in Otsego county. Therefore, it is important that we practice healthy hygiene and safe, social distancing. These are essential in keeping our children and families safe while having fun. Please remind your children of these practices.

I know that for many of our families, these past few weeks have been very difficult. Please know that ECS is here for you and your family. If we can support you, please let us know.

There is much information coming out every day from the Governor, Department of Health, and State Education Department regarding COVID-19 and its effect on educational practices and policies. As I write this letter, we are still expecting to open school on April 14th. If this does change in the future, I will let you know all of the details for bringing students back to school. I know our staff has been reaching out to support students in completing the work that has been sent home. If your child is having difficulty with the assignments, please email her/his teacher with your concerns. If you need to call the school, (607) 965-8931, because you do not have access to email, we can get a message to your child's teacher.

ECS is currently making 302 meals each day for children. It is not too late to participate in the breakfast and lunch program. This is for any child 18 and under, even for children not yet enrolled in school. Starting on Monday, March 30, we will be asking parents if they would like breakfast and lunch for Saturday and Sunday. We received an email this week from NYS which informed us that we could provide breakfast and lunch for children over the weekend.

No internet at home? You can bring students to ECS to access the Wi-Fi either from the North Street or Gym parking lots. This is NOT for students to gather. **Social distancing practices must be followed.** That is, students **should remain in their vehicle.** Students who have ECS laptops can access the ECS Tablet Wi-Fi or the guest Wi-Fi. If you have issues, call the Broome-Tioga BOCES help desk at (607) 766-3800. Students in grades 7, 9, 11, and 12 were part of the ECS laptop initiative that started this year and have laptops.

Please remember to check the ECS websites for additional information. To quote Walt Whitman, "Keep your face always toward the sunshine – and shadows will fall behind you." I know there is much uncertainty. Yet, we will come together as a community and work our way through this current difficult period. Together, we will rise above and overcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Gary Furman".

Gary Furman, Ed.D.