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Good Evening Seymour Families,

This week was a great first week of distance learning. My team is definitely impressed and amazed by all of the effective and creative instruction that has taken place this past week. Our teachers deserve a big round of applause for all of their hard work in their creation and implementation of fabulous lessons. Our Administrators also deserve a round of applause for all of the support they have given to teachers, students, and parents this week. You as parents also deserve a round of applause for remaining positive and patient and for sharing your positive words of encouragement with members of our team. As a parent myself, I know how difficult it is for you to be there to support your children with their work, while still doing the work that you need to do for your job. It is not easy, but I know that you are there for your children, and for that, I wanted to say thank you. I hope that your children are enjoying being read to each night. We all know how important reading is and this is just one small way for us to help promote reading to our children.

As of 11:00am on Thursday, our last chromebook pickup day, a total 820 Chromebooks were distributed to our wonderful Seymour students. Once again, your kind words shared at pickup were much appreciated. We are a great community and together we will get through this.

While we realize that the distance learning content is indeed impressive we kindly ask that you please refrain from taking pictures, screenshots, or recordings of teachers and or student/teacher created content. We do not allow taking pictures of board work or of each other in the physical classroom, so we ask that we continue this practice in our digital classroom.

This evening, I had a conference call with Governor Lamont where he addressed many public issues, including a potential school return date. As of this evening, schools will remain closed through April 20, 2020. While this can change, this is the most up to date information that we have at this time. We will continue to use our distance learning platform up until we are physically able to return to school. Our community will continue to get through this as a team!

Lunch for All

A BIG THANK YOU has to go out to our Cafeteria Team. They have come in and prepared meals for our students. They also wanted me to share that your kind words at pick up are much appreciated as well. We will continue to provide lunch 3 days a week for pick up at Seymour Middle School. Pick up times are between 11:00am and 1:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week up until April 9, 2020. We will then have Spring recess that following week and as such, our Cafeteria team will also be enjoying a much needed rest that week.

We want to once again reiterate that Seymour Public Schools recognizes this is a concerning time for all and that no digital plan will ever replace your child's teacher and we want to thank you for your continued patience and partnership! As always, all staff are here to help in any way needed to ensure an equitable learning experience for students. Please note that during this time of working remotely, our staff will be expected to be actively engaged in work during the hours of 8:00am -2:00pm and to be available for calls, video conferencing if the teacher chooses, email and messaging exchanges, and the like. All staff that are expected to work will be available by email or other form of acceptable electronic communication to support students who are working on these learning assignments, assist families, or reply to questions or requests.

Please continue to look on the following mediums for any communications from our schools:

- Seymour Schools Facebook
- Seymour Schools website

Please make every effort to keep your families safe and healthy. Enjoy the weekend; we look forward to seeing everyone back in their digital classrooms on Monday.

Sincerely,
Michael Wilson
Superintendent