



January 17, 2021

Good Afternoon School District of Beloit Families,

At Tuesday's Board of Education meeting, the Board unanimously voted to remain in Distance Learning through Term 3, which ends on March 26. The Board has asked my leadership team and me to provide a comprehensive plan for the start of Term 4, which begins on April 6. I will provide updates to this plan on our [Safe to Learn Website](#) and in my weekly letters.

There is no school on Monday, January 18, in observance and honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In his own words about education, Dr. King continues to this day to inspire educators and students, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."

**Early Childhood Screening:**

Do you have a child between the ages of two and five? Do you have concerns about his/her development? We have early childhood screenings available for our families. The upcoming dates for screenings are January 20, February 17, March 17, and April 21. Screenings will take place at Hackett and Todd Elementary Schools. Appointments are required, so please call Wendy Porter at (608) 361-4020 to schedule an appointment.

**Typical Childhood Milestones include:**

24-36 Months: Child should be able to climb well, turn book pages one at a time, and recognize and identify almost all common objects and pictures.

3-4 Years: Child should be able to kick and throw a ball, use scissors, draw circles and squares, speak in five to six-word sentences, tell stories, and correctly name some colors.

4-5 Years: Child should be able to swing and climb, print some letters, dress independently, recall parts of a story, count to 10 or more objects, wants to please and be with friends, likes to sing, dance, and act.

**Grab and Go Meals: Important Update**

On Monday, January 18, the School District of Beloit will honor and commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will not be serving Grab and Go Meals. We will provide two days of breakfast and lunch meals on Tuesday, January 19. We will back to our regular schedule on Thursday, January 21, providing four days of breakfast and lunch Grab and Go Meals.

As always, Grab and Go Meals are available for pick-up on Mondays and Thursdays from 11 am to 1:30 pm at all six elementary schools. We continue to make deliveries to families who are unable to pick-up meals during this time. If you have not made an arrangement for delivery, you can do so by calling (608) 361-3136. If you have already arranged for delivery, you do not need to call.

**Up-To-Date News and Information:**

Our [News Section](#) on our Website can keep you up-to-date with all the most recent news, including student highlights, family connections, our SDB Blog, and more. You can even sign-up to



receive our quarterly School District of Beloit newsletter. Check out some of our [highlights from 2020](#) – yes, we did have many highlights.

**iPad and Chromebook Support:**

We continue to receive positive feedback on our iPad and Chromebook support sessions at the Beloit Public Library. We are at the library every Thursday from 11 am to 7 pm to offer students and families assistance with navigating iPads, Chromebooks, and apps. School District of Beloit Spanish Interpreters will be available, and no appointment is necessary.

**Superintendent's Webpage:**

If you want to review any past letters I have shared, you can visit my webpage on the District's website. I am a firm believer in open and transparent communication, so I frequently add information that I have shared through webinars, community presentations, and more. You can access my page through this [LINK](#).

**Free Counseling Available During COVID-19:**

Has COVID-19 impacted you or a loved one? There is a resource in Project Recovery that can help. Crisis Counselors are available free of charge to meet your emotional needs. For more information, please call 2-1-1 and ask for Project Recovery. Or you can visit their [Website](#).

**Attendance and Engagement:**

Attending classes and participating in classroom assignments and activities are vitally important to a students' academic and social success in school. Please reach out to your child's/teen's principal or teacher if you have questions regarding attendance, engagement, or curriculum. I also encourage our families to take advantage of the iPad support available every Thursday from 11 am to 7 pm at the Beloit Public Library. Stop by on Thursday, January 21, if you need some assistance.

**Ready to Learn:**

I always encourage students to get a good night's sleep during the school year. It is important for our students to start the day ready to learn, even more so in Distance Learning. It is recommended that elementary students get at least nine hours of sleep per night and for teens at least eight hours of sleep. Along with a good night's sleep, proper nutrition is just as important. Jump starting the day with a good breakfast allows for better concentration and increases energy to sustain classroom participation and lessons. We provide healthy and nutritious breakfast and lunch meals through our Grab and Go program.

**Snow Days:**

With winter weather in full swing, we will continue to keep our families advised of any school closings due to inclement weather. We have a web page that outlines our decision-making process and how we communicate school closings due to weather: [School Closings](#). While in Distance Learning, we will continue to follow our school closing policy and procedures.

Regards,

Dr. Dan Keyser  
Interim Superintendent  
School District of Beloit