

Paul F. Doyon Memorial School
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Dear Doyon families,

I cannot believe we have been out of school for three weeks. It seems like forever! I hope you are doing okay. I have spent much of the week on ZOOM and/ or Google Meet meetings with staff, the Administrative team, and on the phone with various colleagues trying to navigate this continued time of uncertainty.

I want to thank those families who took the time to complete the District survey on what is working and where the District can support you and your children during this time. During the Administrative team meeting today, we reviewed the results and discussed how the information would guide us moving forward. With the recommendations from the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and input from the survey, the District will be renaming the current IPS Extended Learning website to **IPS Remote Learning** website. (Remember to scroll down on the District website to find the link.) The revised website will be launched next week. It will define what remote learning will look like at the elementary, middle, and high schools. Per a suggestion from the survey, teachers will be including a “Week at a Glance” grid at the beginning of each week along with suggested time on learning for various subject areas. We hope the updates will be beneficial to both students and families. **The IPS Extended Learning** website can be found at www.ipsk12.net

Breakfast and Lunch “Grab and Go” bags are available for any student under the age of 18; Monday - Friday at Rosewood Ave and Winthrop School from 11:30am - 12:30pm, Agawam Village and Powderhouse Village 11:30 am – 12 noon. **Food Service will now be offering an "at door" drop off for families who may be immunocompromised and cannot get to a drop off location. To request this service, please call 978-356-3137x2248 BEFORE 11:00 am and leave a message with your name and address. You may also email mpersson@ipsk12.net. Special thanks to Meghan Persson and her team for preparing this food each day along with Ms. Digby and Mrs. DiGenova for delivering at Rosewood each day!

Technology: We continue to support any family who is having technology difficulties with websites or links and/or are in need of a Chromebook or iPad. Please email your child’s classroom teacher or me if we can help in any way. I am in Ipswich most weekdays and here to help. I have met families at Doyon, Rosewood Drive where the Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch drop off is, and can make special arrangements if need be.

At the Paul F. Doyon Memorial School, our vision is to create a joyful learning community of creative thinkers, innovative problem solvers and compassionate citizens of the world.

Teachers continue to be available via email and will respond in a timely manner Monday – Friday. I am a believer that weekends should be for families both yours and our staff. Thank you for your continued understanding that we are all home with our families in similar situations.

“Wishtree” by Katherine Applegate was chosen for a One Book Read for Doyon and Winthrop and the community at large this spring. It is a great book. Once I started the book, I couldn't put it down! If you do not have a copy of the book, you are able to listen to the book which is being read by the town library staff and Doyon and Winthrop staff and principals.
<https://www.ipswichlibrary.org/wishtree-community-read/>

In closing, I want to challenge everyone, both the adults and the children, to think and then write three highlights of your week, each week, moving forward. Put your names on the piece of paper along with the date and then find a special box or jar to store them in. Six months from now, it will be fun to read them to each other, and maybe even share some of them with me! My first two highlights were coloring my rainbow and making a video-clap for a surprise Ms. Hohenstein is launching soon. My third highlight was something that I never thought I would be doing; I participated in a “ZOOM Get Together” with my eighty-year old parents and my siblings. What a great way to see the ones you love when you cannot be together in person especially when **the commitment for social distancing is so important right now.**

Feel free to email me with any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Please try to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Sheila