

Dear Merrimack Families and District Staff~

One year ago yesterday we announced the closure of Merrimack schools due to the pandemic. A few days later Governor Sununu ordered the closure of all New Hampshire schools for the same reason. Since that time, students, school staff of every description, parents, and administrators have worked unbelievably hard to figure this out. It hasn't been easy for anyone. However, despite some vast disagreements among all these groups about the best way to move forward during this terribly difficult time, there has been universal agreement on at least one point: students deserve our very best efforts to help them through this so that, on the other side, they will remember that they were cared for and supported as much as they could be during a time that has challenged all of us to our core. My hope has always been that this will be the thing our students remember most about this time.

The days are getting longer. Warmer weather is approaching, even though the next few days will try to hide that fact. And tomorrow we will bring our students in grades K-4 back to school for those who choose it, and back to four days of remote instruction for those who choose that alternative. Either way, all students and teachers will reconnect more, and in more powerful ways, beginning tomorrow. We welcome them back with genuine excitement. We ask for your continued vigilance regarding safety protocols so that we can maintain this positive momentum as it leads us to the final stretch of this school year with as few disruptions as possible.

With appreciation for all you have done to support our community's young people during this incredibly difficult time and with best wishes for a healthy end to this school year for us all--

Mark McLaughlin  
Superintendent