Greetings Burlington,

May 8th (today!) was the deadline to receive information/guidance from the Agency of Education (AOE) regarding the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

The Governor’s press conference today had limited information but we suspect written guidance will arrive from the AOE in the coming days.

**What we do know:** Most substantial was clarification regarding school for the rest of the year. School buildings will be closed for the remainder of the year and virtual learning will continue. The AOE has waived all snow days and asked us to follow our school calendar to determine the last day of school.

**The last day for students in BSD will be June 12th**, barring any updates or changes from the State. Please look for more information from your principal in the coming days for specifics regarding what instruction will look like. Our leadership teams are also discussing the best ways to allow students and families (and staff) back into the buildings to pick up any belongings and/or return any items.

**Graduation, Promotion, Step-Up:** We are determined to make the end of the year special for our graduating students at every level. We have established a Task Force at the high school that has been exploring ideas to recognize graduation. The team is inclusive of students, staff, and parents. If you have a unique idea to share, please contact Principal Green by May 20th with suggestions.

The elementary and middle school principals are also working together to create unified celebrations and recognitions of Step Up and Promotion.

**Summer Programming:** The AOE will allow school districts to offer summer programming (including tutoring, intervention, camps, etc.) as long as that programming follows/meets the State's guidance for gatherings. Currently, that means that only 10 people or less may gather. Our teams have been planning for different summer scenarios and will begin to finalize those plans. The options for summer will be limited but please stay tuned for more information.

**Future updates:** Shortly after the main update from the AOE today, another email containing direction was sent. I expect guidance to continue to trickle out from the AOE in the coming weeks as school districts and community members seek clarification on items including things like opening school for fall and issues around child care and food.

Look for more updates from us as we learn more and finalize plans. Please remain patient with us in the meantime.

Enjoy your weekend, continue to practice physical distancing, and don’t forget to thank your teachers. (Thank you, teachers!)

Thanks for reading,

Superintendent Obeng

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