

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF: APRIL 6 - 10

Dear Cunniff Families,

I want to start this week's letter by capturing the key points articulated in Dr. Galdston's letter issued on Friday. From now until May 3, the goal is to reinforce skills already taught, apply and extend these skills in order to prevent regression, catch students up so that all students are at a similar starting point when we return to school, and prioritize new key concepts throughout the end of the year - to the extent possible.

What has changed from Phase I? The first is that of increased time interacting with students. Second is that of **requiring** as opposed to **recommending** student participation, to the extent possible. With regard to student services, we will be providing more individualized and specific outreach in order to maintain and reinforce previously learned skills ensuring progress towards IEP goals. Please note that Director of Student Services, Kathy Desmarais will be hosting a live Question and Answer Zoom session during the scheduled SEPAC meeting on Thursday, April 9 at 6:00 pm. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional details or email the Director at [kathleen.desmarais@watertown.k12.ma.us](mailto:kathleen.desmarais@watertown.k12.ma.us) or SEPAC at [wps\\_sepac@watertown.k12.ma.us](mailto:wps_sepac@watertown.k12.ma.us). A Zoom link to the meeting will follow.

What will you see during the next two weeks? On Friday, we met via Zoom as a faculty. During this time, we reviewed the District's Phase II Expectations informed by the Commissioner's letter. We set off to work creating schedules that would enable classroom teachers to organize their 3-30 minute classes and their additional - 30-minute community meeting within a specific and consistent block of time. Additionally, we set up consistent blocks of time for intervention. You will begin to see all of this as the week unfolds.

Teachers will also begin to have systems of support in place and these include meetings with coordinators, coaches, as well as faculty meetings.

The faculty and I know that you are working incredibly hard in order to facilitate your child's/children's participation in these remote experiences. We hope that the synchronization of a schedule will provide you with consistent meeting times that you can rely on and add to your daily calendar.

I will be hosting a second Principal's Coffee on Friday, April 10 at 9:00 AM specifically to help address needs you might want to address that impact your student's participation.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/637715446>

I think we are all struggling to find answers to the same questions? How do we become "experts" with the demands of remote learning, while supporting our own work-related needs? How do you support the needs of children who are now your students? How do you find a healthy balance?

I would like to begin hosting a morning message of the week for students. It will take place each Monday at 8:15 and all students are welcome to join. The morning message will last approximately five minutes.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/180585211>

Looking ahead, we continue to move forward with plans for Cunniff West. There are 127 students that have registered to take the bus to Cunniff West. Registration is now closed and if you would like to be placed on the waitlist for a possible seat, please visit [https://www.watertown.k12.ma.us/about\\_our\\_district/registration\\_for\\_bus](https://www.watertown.k12.ma.us/about_our_district/registration_for_bus).

Wishing our Cunniff families good health!

With warmest regards,

Mena

