

Dear ABSS Family:

I wanted to provide you with a summary of all that our school district and its wonderful employees are doing to support our children and families during this unusual public health experience.

Well before the mandatory school shutdown announced by the governor last Saturday, ABSS district administrators and educators had plans in place to continue off-campus learning in a variety of methods for an extended period. High schools developed plans and a system to deploy nearly 2,000 laptops for students to use at home to continue with the task of earning course credits to stay on track to graduation. I visited one of the high schools on the very first day of laptop pick up and was so proud of the school team, how smoothly it ran and how well prepared the staff was to make the process successful for everyone. Our elementary and middle schools are equally well prepared to ensure that classroom instruction is able to continue, just at home instead of at school. Everyone has done an amazing job.

On the second day of the shutdown this week, our ABSS Child Nutrition team launched grab and go lunches at 20 sites, and on Wednesday, added 2 more sites and breakfast. Again, I visited one of the grab-and-go locations and watched child nutrition staff, teachers, teacher assistants and school administrators greet parents and their children with a friendly welcome hand out nutritious lunches and learning packets so students would have all they needed to continue learning. On Friday, the district also launched bus delivery of grab and go meals where we have bus stops for 5 children or more. We are making every effort to meet the needs of our children.

Our school administrators, our teachers, our school counselors and social workers have made tremendous effort to be available to answer questions and deliver learning materials for families that need some extra assistance. Our technology department has done a tremendous job answering questions about log-ins and access for students and parents learning to work online and off campus for the first time.

Alamance County is experiencing an unprecedented event that is affecting everyone and our daily routines. Our wonderful community has wrapped its arms around us and is mobilizing volunteers who are eager to support us during this mandatory school shutdown, no matter how long it may last. We are making history together. Thank you to our entire ABSS team for your dedication to the families that we serve.

ABSS families, our board of education members are convinced that we have the best school district in the state. Our ABSS team of experienced educators is well prepared to continue finding solutions and overcoming challenges during this public health crisis. I hope you will continue to share your appreciation for their efforts. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours for the Children,

Allison D. Gant
Chair, Alamance-Burlington Board of Education