

Dear Students and Parents,

March 20, 2020

I hope that this message finds all of you healthy, safe and I hope that you were able to enjoy the spring break, the best that you could. On Monday March 30, 2020 students will begin their distant learning. In order to keep our social distance and take step to help eliminate the Corona virus we will use distant learning at least through April 15th. There will be some obstacles that we face as we practice distance learning, but through communication, cooperation and patience we will work through this the best that we can. The teachers will have their distance training the week of March 23 through 27 and will also be getting set up with their student. When we get started on March 30, your child and their teachers will be able to communicate.

Next Tuesday March,24, 2020 we will have Chromebooks and laptops available for pickup at Ruckel. If you have a personal laptop, Chromebook or desktop at home your device will work. **I would like to emphasize to please do not come and get a Ruckel device if you have a personal device in your home. We do not have a device for every student and we want to ensure that we have enough to go around.** We will hand out one device per family for those that need a device. On Monday March 23, 2020 we will do a call out with instructions and a schedule on how to come and pick up your device. I will also post the call out on our website. Because we have such a large number of students it will be imperative that you follow the schedule so that we do not have a large number of people on campus at any one time. This will take place in our parking lot and we are going to do it drive by style, so you should not have to get out of your car. Please make sure you have a picture ID to show, so that we can verify your student is at Ruckel. For those that might not have internet access we will have a form from Cox Communication that you can fill out in order to receive that access. Cox has partnered with the school district in order to help us through this situation.

We will need to demonstrate patience and remain calm to get through these trying times. If it takes a little time to get set up and started, our teachers will be flexible and get all students going. Students will also need to use flexibility, for example, if siblings are sharing a device one might get going early in the morning, while the other does a physical activity for PE or practices on their band instrument. What we are doing may not be ideal but we will make it work because our two greatest assets at Ruckel are our students and our teachers and both will find a way.

Sincerely and Go Rams!

Paul Whiddon
Principal
Ruckel Middle School

