

March 17, 2020

Good morning Neary Families,

I hope this message finds your family healthy and safe. As we navigate these uncharted waters, please know that the Neary School staff is here for your children and family. It's times like these where we need each other and where our motto of #CHOOSEKIND is visible in so many ways. Throughout this closure, if you know of a family or student that needs assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I am beyond proud of the work our Neary staff is doing to support our students and families. Over the course of the past several days, Neary staff members have been virtually collaborating and planning with one another in order to prepare for NSBORO-Connect. As we prepare to launch NSBORO-Connect, I wanted to share a few important informational pieces to support families:

NSBORO-Connect will begin on Wednesday, March 18th. Teachers will be in touch with students and families through email and/or google classroom. Students will receive two check-ins per day from their teacher(s) in order to stay connected and ask questions. Please do not hesitate to reach out to teachers throughout the closure.

Please know that the learning experiences being provided by teachers are optional. The opportunities are to help students engage in learning and maintain skills. During this closure, no new learning will be introduced and the optional learning experiences will not be graded or assessed.

Neary will be open on Wednesday, March 18th, from 8:00-12:00 a.m. for families to pick up necessary items such as instruments or outdoor garments (i.e. hats, coats). Classrooms will be closed, but we will have staff in the main office to retrieve any necessary items for you. All optional learning experiences will be offered by our teachers through Google classroom or email. Therefore, there will be no need for any items such as books or papers to be retrieved from the classroom. As a reminder, if your child is looking for a new book to read, Neary has a subscription to SORA, an online library, which can be accessed at [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com). Students will need their Google classroom login to access books. If you need assistance with this, please email your child's teacher.

Families who are in need of a device for optional learning activities during the closure should access the following links:

<https://forms.gle/mjVZCu6U2YuivqKC9> (English)  
<https://forms.gle/DmkRS1wsxrYarpwF8> (Arabic)  
<https://forms.gle/3SXXK4ZEgbUEo2ZL8A> (Simplified Chinese)  
<https://forms.gle/vvocLcFbXXKSG5nP9> (Portuguese)  
<https://forms.gle/mPFCf499VZ9RrgSt9> (Spanish)

Families who would like to access food services should complete the following form:  
[COVID 19 Food Services Order Form](#)

Many parents have reached out about parent/teacher conferences. At this time these conferences are canceled. Information will be communicated about conferences, as it becomes available.

As a staff, we are looking for ways to connect virtually with families, as well. Also, many authors are creating virtual live presentations. Please check out the attached document that was created by one of our librarians which lists live author events.

Again, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or me with questions or any support that is needed. Be well, be safe, be kind and remember, we're all in this together.

With immense Neary pride,  
Kathleen Valenti