



# DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Dear DCS Parents, Students, and Staff,

While parts of the school district saw snowflakes today, we are making our way through spring and looking forward to summer. Below are several important pieces of information:

**Survey regarding next fall:** We are actively planning for fall and have always been committed to creating options for kids based on individual needs. For many years, we've operated a full online school for a small number of students K-12, but we don't regularly advertise the option as it has historically been customized for unique family/student needs. With the unknown nature of when we will be able to return to school and what potential scenarios we need to plan for in preparation for the fall, we are actively planning for a variety of scenarios. These scenarios range from school starting after Labor Day, as planned, with physical distancing restrictions and other health restrictions, to creating new models for instruction where some students are remote, some are in our buildings as they traditionally would have been, and others are in a hybrid model with some time in school and some time remote.

In order to help us gauge the interest of our families and plan, we're asking all of our families to participate in a [short survey](#) to let us know what you believe is right for your child this fall. We know your answers will change as we move out of the stay home order and gain more clarity on what fall will look like for schools, but this snapshot in time of what our parents are thinking will help us work through our potential scenario-planning. Please take a few minutes and share your present thoughts. You are not committed to your answer and we will send subsequent surveys and opportunities for input over the next two months. We really need your current thoughts to guide our planning.

**Community Virtual Forum:** On Wednesday, May 13th from 6 - 7 p.m., we are hosting a community forum to discuss the current remote learning experiences and plans for the fall. Our license only allows for 500 participants. If for some reason, the numbers of participants are higher, we will schedule a second session. Please [register in advance](#) for this webinar: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_4y26xbLAQ-6uMOYTeFQJpQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4y26xbLAQ-6uMOYTeFQJpQ). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

**Heartwarming Work of Our Students and Teachers:** Our DCS teachers are absolutely phenomenal. We are blessed to have them working with our kids and continuing to create unique and genuine learning experiences for all students. Please take 20 seconds to listen to this snippet of a 6th grade ["virtual" choir performance](#).



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**Technology Pickup:** In the next few weeks, we will announce the schedule for technology pickup/dropoff. We are moving the pickup to the week of June 15th.

**Pickup of Student Materials:** Currently, under the Governor's Executive Orders, we cannot have students on school property until the end of the school year. We are working on plans for pickup of materials, textbook drop-offs, etc. However, we do not yet have a formalized plan prepared.

**Family Resources:** Last week I shared with you a DCS newsletter called the Wayfinder with tips for parenting teens during the COVID-19 closure. This week, I am attaching a **Wayfinder for students in grades 3 through 6**. Some of the information will be familiar if you read the Teen Wayfinder, but the information and links are updated for the developmental needs of younger students. Remember that all attachments are archived on the [Superintendent page](#) of our website.

**Champions for Wellness:** 5 Healthy Towns is requesting nominations for local Champions for Wellness through the end of May. The flyer is attached to this message – please consider nominating a local individual or business for this recognition. Winners will be featured in the 5 Healthy Towns fall/winter *Connected* magazine, which goes to 29,000 households.

Thank you for your patience and continued support.

Have a great weekend, and Go Dreads!

Sincerely,

Christopher Timmis, Ed.D.  
Superintendent