March 24, 2020

Dear LCPS Families and Staff:

On March 23, following Governor Northam’s announcement that school buildings would be closed statewide for the remainder of the school year, the Virginia Department of Education published Guidance on Graduation Requirements, Awarding of Credits, and Continuity of Learning. The guidance includes considerations for assessment and grading, providing continuity of education throughout the school closure, and specific flexibility for school divisions with regard to graduation requirements. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction, stated in a press release this morning that, “As school divisions review our guidance and plot a course forward that best fits their unique circumstances, they should make sure that every decision is equitable and meets the needs of all learners, including early learners.”

Regarding our graduating seniors, Dr. Lane said, “The governor and I agree that every student who was on a trajectory toward earning a diploma should be able to graduate on time and move on to the next stage of his or her life.” LCPS is in the process of reviewing the guidance and determining the most appropriate next steps to meet the needs of all 84,000 students.

**Chromebooks and Hotspots**

LCPS will begin distribution of Chromebooks tomorrow for students in grade 3-12 who do not already have them. School principals have been communicating with their communities regarding that process. If your grade 3-12 student does not have an LCPS Chromebook and you have not heard from your principal, please contact them to learn more about the plan.

LCPS also has purchased some mobile internet hotspots to help ensure access to internet-based instruction for students and staff during our extended closure. LCPS is prioritizing the distribution of hotspots to students in grades 3-12 in households with the greatest need. There is a limit of one hotspot per household. To request a device, families must complete the online form or call the LCPS Technology Support Center at 571-252-2112 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

**Meal Service Map**

LCPS continues to provide grab-and-go breakfasts and lunches for pickup at 28 schools, and buses are distributing meals to stops across the county. Please refer to the interactive map to determine the location nearest you to pick-up meals for your students.

Thank you for your continued flexibility as we adapt to our new environment.

Sincerely,

Eric Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent