April 28, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians:

In this global crisis, teachers are overwhelmed, parents and guardians are overwhelmed, and many of our students are overwhelmed. Getting through all the chapters and all the assignments is not our priority right now. Checking in with students and families and offering continuous learning against a handful of critical standards is our need. Together, we will have had twelve weeks to ensure that all our students have the most essential building blocks in place to achieve success in their next class, their next grade, and their next pursuit.

The RSU 39 Administrative Team has grounded their work in three core principles: compassion, communication, and common sense. Students, not grades, come first. Decisions need to be transparent and communicated effectively to families as partners in student success.

For the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, the RSU 39 Board of Education voted to finish the year in remote learning mode where students, families, and educators will all be learning together. Grades and/or feedback communicate student progress on content standards and how students are acquiring the skills and knowledge that are most essential for success in the next course, content area, grade level, or pursuit. The following items were also approved by the RSU 39 Board of Education:

**CONTINUATION OF REMOTE LEARNING:**

**PreK - 3:** Packets were prepared and distributed for the first six weeks of remote learning. May 4th to the end of the year will be a continuation of remote learning; teachers are creating online theme-based learning opportunities that will review skills that have been previously taught.

**Grades 4-6:** Packets were prepared and distributed for the first two weeks of remote learning then transitioned to online teaching and learning and will continue through the remainder of the school year.

**Grades 7 - 12:** Work will continue to be assigned and completed electronically. Teachers will continue to provide feedback to students.

*All Teachers will continue to communicate and be available to answer questions and assist families as they have been.*

**REPORT CARD GRADING:**

- K-5
  - Students have report card grades from trimester 1 & 2. There will not be any grades for trimester 3.
- 6-8
  - Students have report card grades from trimester 1 & 2. Trimester 3 grades will be *Pass or **Incomplete. Any Incomplete for Trimester 3 will need to be remediated at a later date. Options for this may include: summer school or remediation at the beginning of the new school year.

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• 9-12
  o Final grades will be based on the average of Q1 & Q2 & Q3. Q4 will be *Pass or **Incomplete. Any Incomplete for Q4 will need to be remediated at a later date. Options for this may include: summer school, remediation at the beginning of the new school year, or repeating the entire course.
  o Semester based courses~ the first 3 quarters are traditional, Q4 will be *Pass or **Incomplete
  o Learning opportunities will be available in the future for students who receive an **Incomplete to support them to earn a *Pass grade
  o Dual enrollment~ if the high school determines a student will be awarded a credit the university will award the credit as well
  o Senior students~ class rank and grade point average will be determined by the average of the first three quarters
  o Community service hours will be awarded for the 2020 graduating seniors

*Pass: Student has completed 50% or more of assigned work
**Incomplete: Student has not completed 50% of assigned work or cannot engage in an equitable way

GRADUATION:
• Plans are being made to have a graduation celebration on June 7, 2020. The details and organization of that plan will be forthcoming. Senior students are encouraged to participate in the weekly “Senior Coffee Hour” with Mr. Barnes.

• The parents of the Class of 2020 Project Graduation continue to meet, please check their FaceBook page (Caribou High School Project Graduation Class of 2020) for more information.

According to the Remote Learning Plan, approved by the RSU 39 Board of Education, the official student participation end date will remain the same ~ June 9, 2020. No new additional school work will be assigned after Friday, May 29, 2020, allowing students and families time to complete all assignments and correspond with their teacher(s). Students that complete all their required work before June 9th are asked to reach out to their classmates to see if they can be of assistance by being a peer tutor or speak with their teacher(s) to see if there is any additional material that could be made available to them for enrichment purposes.

This is a time of learning and transition for educators, for families, and for the public school students across our state. We are facing unprecedented challenges, identifying solutions, and engaging flexibly as the uncertainty around the pandemic continues. When making these decisions, RSU 39 has considered both the immediate and the long-term implications for instruction and for learning statewide.

Finally, we want to express our appreciation to all staff, families, and community members for helping to keep our students safe and healthy during these trying times.

Sincerely,
Jane McCall, Assistant Superintendent

Additional detailed building information can be found on the RSU 39 website www.rsu39.org in the “Continuation of Learning” section on the homepage.