



AUGUSTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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James Anastasio, M.A.
Superintendent

October 16, 2020

Katherine Grondin, CAS
Assistant Superintendent

Dear Students, Parents, and Educators,

Kathy Casparius,
M.B.A., M.C.T.E.
Business Manager

First and foremost let me compliment all of you for working so hard to make a positive education possible during this unprecedented pandemic. Everyone is being asked to adjust to the situation and make the best of an educational process that is much different than the education we previously experienced.

Susan Walters, CAS
Director of Special Education

What has been accomplished in little over a month is truly amazing. Teachers are providing education to students in class, remotely, and at times both. Students are receiving instruction in multiple ways and parents have a greater role in providing and/or supporting education than most ever envisioned. The transition from what education was to what it is currently has been interesting, exciting, and at times stressful for all. The learning curve is steep and there is much more to be learned about the use of technology, remote learning, and the entire teaching and learning process.

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Educators are committed and want to continue to improve the teaching and learning process during this pandemic. Their highest priorities are to provide the best education possible for all students and the support that each student needs to be successful. To help them achieve those priorities, I recommended to the Board of Education that we provide the professional time for educators that previously existed in the school calendar but was not included in this year's revised calendar. The School Board supported my recommendation and as a result the first Wednesday of each month, beginning November 4th, will be a professional development day for educators and not a remote learning or check in day for students.

I do believe students will benefit from the opportunity and time that educators will have to continually improve instruction, expand their use of technology, and increase their ability to meet the needs of all students.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support of the Augusta School Department.

Sincerely,

James Anastasio
Superintendent of Schools