



May 19, 2020

Dear Community Members,

During our recent webinars, and in various other venues, many of you have shared clearly and openly what we are all feeling. There is an incredible amount of uncertainty at this time, which is coupled by what will likely continue as a series of new situations. Our teachers share with us a healthy dose of realism, along with constructive hope on a daily basis. Yet we understand the many unknown variables are stressful for families, learners, and our educators. Perhaps the most complicated variable is time. It is not clear how long the current public health situation will continue, or how our interactions will progress. However, there is an abundance of gratitude in knowing so many are staying safe, others are serving, and our community cares deeply.

As we look ahead into May and June there are a few aspects we do have in hand. We are required to provide e-learning on Friday, May 22nd. This was formerly an extended Memorial Day weekend. I can also confirm that we have arranged to end our year earlier than planned as we will have met both the contractual and required days of instruction. For Garrison students the last day of instruction will be June 12th. Our teachers and staff greatly value your partnership with us as we evolved in the e-learning process. Your commitment to the task of signing in each day, ensuring that student attendance is averaging over 95%, makes a direct impact to the State Aid revenue tied to our average daily attendance requirements. I applaud your efforts and encourage you continue learning with us these next three weeks.

Many of you have begun sharing your ideas and knowledge to assist us creating our re-entry plan, and we greatly appreciate your input as we look ahead to September. Certainly, much of the plan will follow guidance from the health care professionals and from other successful models on a national and international level. Other aspects of our re-entry will depend on our local region working together for greater continuity as we strive to meet the requirements of community participation in creating our plans. By having a broad-based constituency, we can best reflect the needs of Garrison. What are our barriers, the opportunities, and the supports to create a comprehensive actionable plan for our school community? If you are interested in formally serving with us in this capacity, please let me know.

I wish you a restful and safe Memorial Day. Thank you for your commitment in helping to keep our community safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Debra Jackson