

Hello amazing Gateway families! As you are all aware, the Governor and state Superintendent have extended the "soft closure" for all schools until May 1st. I wanted to update you as to how we are adjusting and improving our work for your students now that we have a clear picture of the state's timeline. We have carefully considered feedback from parents and starting MONDAY MARCH 30th we will make a few small changes.

First, Communication: we are aware that you have all been getting multiple emails throughout the day we can relate! We are working on ways to be more streamlined and efficient in our communication, starting with coordinating between siblings in different environments. You should start seeing fewer emails. Email will still be our primary mode of communication but we will coordinate and combine emails so that you aren't buried in email every day. Please be aware of your teacher's inbox as well. Read thoroughly through class newsletters - most of the general instructions for your student will be found there. We can all be better if we are communicating efficiently!

Please know that if you have questions you can always reach out to me or your individual teachers: we want to help and to make this a positive experience for you and your student(s).

Second, Pick-up and Drop-off: Starting Monday, we aim to limit your trips to the school; for both your health and sanity! ALL WORK will be picked up and dropped off on Monday. As you pull up to the school (in the bus lane on the South side of the building for Kindergarten through 3rd grade, and the East carpool doors for 4th grade through 8th grade) an aide will bring your student(s) work to you. You will need to let them know your student(s) name as well as their teacher. They will bring the work to you. If you have students with different teachers, we will coordinate getting all of their work to you (regardless of which door you drive up to). You will return work for teachers at this same time.

We will have all items from the lost and found available for pick up outside on both THIS Friday (27th) and Monday (30th) morning - after that we will be donating what's left to charitable organizations.

All ChromeBooks will now need to be returned to the school on May 1st. If you have a need for a device you will need to check out a ChromeBook by this Friday!

Third, Meals: to support fewer emails we have put a link to order school lunch front and center on our website: [gpacharter.org](http://gpacharter.org). Please request a lunch daily using the link on our website, this will help us prepare an accurate number each day. And this is a friendly reminder, FREE lunch is available for ALL students and siblings under 18 years old during this "soft closure." Please call the school if you have questions about the lunch program.

Finally, we have been asked to maintain our school calendar. This means that we will still have our spring break April 13th through the 17th. There will be no school activities that week. However, because we recognize the impact this school dismissal is having on our families, we will continue to offer breakfast and lunch during the break.

I want to thank you all for your patience and commitment during this time. I am constantly impressed by each of you (and your students). We truly have an amazing school community. If you have questions or concerns or suggestions we want to hear them: they help us be better! Please email or call me any time. Our goal is to continue to provide the best education possible under the circumstances. Have a great and healthy day!

Andrew Burt, Director  
3/25/2020

