



# Binghamton City School District

Christopher Columbus School

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April 22, 2020

Dear Binghamton Families,

Already, we're in our sixth week of distance learning, and kicking off our 4<sup>th</sup> marking period. I applaud our students and families on all the outstanding work you've accomplished together at home thus far. This has been a learning experience for all of us, and I appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we make enhancements to our teaching and learning. We are striving to provide our students with a meaningful and substantive distance learning experience.

Our administrators and faculty have been working on a system of academic support that includes grading procedures with the well-being of students in mind. We will soon share these procedures with you, along with how credit will be granted for courses in grades 6 through 12. At the elementary level, next week would have been a time for parent-teacher conferences to have taken place. If you have any academic concerns that are not being addressed, please reach out to your child's teacher for a time to connect. Your child's teacher will also be reaching out to families whose child has been struggling academically throughout the year.

I believe the coronavirus pandemic has proven the vital role schools play in our communities. BCSD schools are true community schools. Our buildings provide more than academic programming – through community partnerships and collaboration, we're able to connect our families with resources that support the learning and wellbeing of our students, families and neighborhoods, and we continue our commitment to those efforts throughout this closure. I'm a proud superintendent, knowing that through this time of adversity, our schools have shined with great strength and resilience.

As another way to keep our close-knit school community connected, please visit our [website](#) to view the building-level videos that faculty and staff have put together for students in recent weeks. We continue to collect content for our district Teacher Appreciation Week video. Please take a photo of your child, holding a sign with a message of appreciation and love for their teacher(s), and email it to [PR@Binghamtonschools.org](mailto:PR@Binghamtonschools.org). We look forward to sharing this video during the week of May 4.

Thank you for continuing to 'B' engaged, supportive, and committed to your student's success.

With Patriot Pride,

Dr. Tonia Thompson  
Superintendent of Schools

***Educating, empowering and challenging all students to become productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.***