20 March 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

On or before Monday, March 23, 2020, all GISU schools will have transitioned to a remote delivery model of education for the maintenance of learning. Our teachers, special educators, support staff, and administrators have done a tremendous amount of work to ensure students are being supported to the best of our ability while our schools are on a dismissal ordered by Governor Scott. We are currently ordered into a dismissal until April 6, 2020; however, we are planning for that timeline to be extended. Over the next two weeks, teachers and support staff will work remotely to support students.

In order to protect our essential employees who need to do work in the buildings, we are closing our buildings to the public until schools are reopened. Thank you for your understanding and help.

We have been and will continue to prepare bagged meals (breakfast and lunch) out of our production kitchens at the Alburgh, Grand Isle, and Folsom Schools, where our professional staff have and will continue to prepare meals in a safe and sanitary environment. To exercise the recommended social distancing, we will provide meals to children 18 and under for free through delivery using a combination of our bus drivers and support staff to deliver the meals to homes. I’m proud to share that today we delivered well over 400 meals to more than 200 children. If you would like meals for your student delivered please contact the following:

- Alburgh - Wendy Savage 796-3573 ext 101
- Grand Isle, Isle La Motte, or North Hero - Joanne Tier 372-8866
- South Hero - Arianna Middlemiss 372-6600

Between now and April 6, 2020, the Governor’s order requires a school to provide for the maintenance of learning. In other words, the focus is on providing work to help students keep the learning gains they have made so far this year. If the dismissal was to go past April 6, 2020, the Governor’s order tasks schools with the development of a plan for continuity of learning. The focus of continuity of learning includes introducing new learning to students remotely. This is a major undertaking and a GISU Team has been created to develop a plan and resources in the likely event the dismissal continues beyond April 6, 2020.
Two of the goals of the GISU Continuity of Learning Plan will include providing High-Quality Learning experiences while balancing Equity for all students. One important aspect of this balance may be providing access to online resources and the GISU is looking into how to do this. One important component is having access to the internet. Attached to this letter is a flyer from Consolidated Communications offering 2 months of Free Internet Service and Free Installation with no long term contract, no termination fee, and cap on data. This may be a great opportunity for your student to stay connected if the Governor’s dismissal continues long term. Please know any plan for the continuation of learning we create will contain an option that does not require students to use technology.

One of the tools which has been helpful to communicate with Faculty and Staff, while practicing social distancing has been hosting Google Hangouts. I’d like to provide an opportunity to talk with community members who have questions, concerns, or just want to talk. To do this I will host a Superintendent/Community Google Hangout on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The direct link is here (meet.google.com/yai-bbqu-ryz) for the video conference or by phone, (US)+1 319-332-7286, PIN: 533 925 225#. I hope you will consider joining me (I think there is capacity for up to at least 150 participants)

We appreciate your flexibility. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out anytime.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Clark
Grand Isle Supervisory Union
Superintendent
Consolidated Communications is offering students 2 Months of Free Internet Service + Free Installation* 

With so many students having to connect from home, Consolidated Communications is offering two months of Free Home Internet Service to help. This offer includes free installation for those who are not currently Consolidated customers. We are making this service available to students immediately.

Take advantage of the offer in two easy steps:

1. Call Consolidated Communications: 1-855-399-3084
2. Mention Offer Code: Two Months Free

This offer includes free installation and no equipment fees for two months. Students and their families do not have to sign a long-term contract to receive this offer. Consolidated doesn't cap the amount of data you can use or charge extra based on your use.

Contract flexibility – Customers who take advantage of this offer may choose a one-year or two-year agreement to make further promotional discounts available after their first two months of service. Or, they may sign up for month-to-month service. No early termination fees will be charged for customers who end service before their chosen contract duration.

*Offer applies to new Internet service and to existing qualified Internet customers who are students or are the immediate family of a student. The two free month credit applies to first 60 to 62 days of recurring Internet service charges and does not include applicable taxes and fees. The credit may be applied across the first and second invoices in varying amounts depending on the service start date, billing cycle, and the number of days in the billing cycles. As a result, you may receive a credit totaling up to $100 more or less than two calendar months of Internet service charges.