

**PUBLIC MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT DAVID WOLK ~ March 17, 2020**

**Today is St. Patrick's Day, March 17, and this is Superintendent Dave Wolk. Many thanks to all of you for your cooperation as we navigate through these uncharted times. I hope you feel the loving embrace of your schools.**

**I'd like to update you on what we feel is a creative, safe and effective way to deliver meals to all Rutland students.**

**We are committed to strengthening our community by providing healthy and well-balanced meals to children year-round. In accordance with Governor Scott's directive, all schools in the district will be closed beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, March 18. While schools remain closed, for however that long that will be, we will continue to feed our students.**

**We will be preparing bagged meals (breakfast and lunch) out of our production kitchen at Rutland High School, where our professional staff will prepare meals in a safe and sanitary environment. School buses will then be distributing these meals at 10 locations around the city between 11 am and 1 pm, Monday through Friday. We will begin the distribution tomorrow, Wednesday, March 18.**

**In addition to the five locations at Northeast School, Northwest School, Rutland Intermediate/Middle Schools, Allen Street Campus and Rutland High School, look for our yellow school buses in the parking lots at the College of St. Joseph, Mount St. Joseph Academy, Christ the King School, the Salvation Army and Ocean State Job Lots. These locations can also be found on our website. We are trying to make the distribution as convenient as possible.**

**Meals are available to all children under age 18, regardless of school enrollment. No application or prior approval is required.**

**We want our children to continue to be healthy, well-nourished and able to continue learning even while schools are closed.**

**As you know, each school has developed their own approach to remote learning that will begin on Monday. Please communicate with your teachers and school leadership if you have any questions.**

**I look forward to welcoming students back once it is safe to do so. In the meantime, please take care of yourselves, your families and your neighbors.**

