



"Original Schoolhouse 1855"

**Board of Education
Town of Bozrah**
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Ruth I. Levy, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent

Catherine A. Dowler
Principal

Eileen Hargreaves
Director of Special Education

March 13, 2020

Dear Bozrah Public School Community,

I am writing to inform you that the Bozrah Public Schools will be closed beginning Monday, March 16, 2020 for the next two weeks at a minimum. Please be aware that as guidance is updated, this may need to be extended.

On the advice of our local health departments, the school superintendents in southeastern Connecticut have come together to make a decision to put the health of our community (both our school community and the community at large) at the center of our decision to close schools. We have been advised by the Uncas Health District, that the implementation of social distancing measures is a proven science-based intervention that has been shown to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with communicable disease outbreaks. In the past, communities in which schools closed were able to positively impact and reduce the spread of disease. We felt compelled to make this decision to prevent the spread of illness among our students, staff, and our communities.

We also clearly heard that we cannot confirm that this illness will run its course in two weeks, in fact, it is not likely that it will. We made the determination to make this closure "indefinite" based on that information. This decision was made in consultation with and with the support of the health departments, elected officials and emergency management professionals.

During this school closing, The Bozrah Public Schools will seek ways to provide supplemental educational opportunities to our students. Packets have been sent home earlier in the event of a closing. We will be using the internet to provide additional materials for your children. Please check Parent Square for specific classroom educational materials.

This is a highly unusual time for us all. I thank you all for your understanding and patience as we try to keep our students, staff, and community as healthy as possible. We will continue to communicate with you as we receive updated guidance from our public health officials, the CDC, and state officials. At a minimum, we will be in contact each Friday to update you, and before that time should more information become available.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ruth Levy,
Interim Superintendent of Schools