



**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**  
**201 Main Street**  
**VESTAL, NEW YORK 13850**

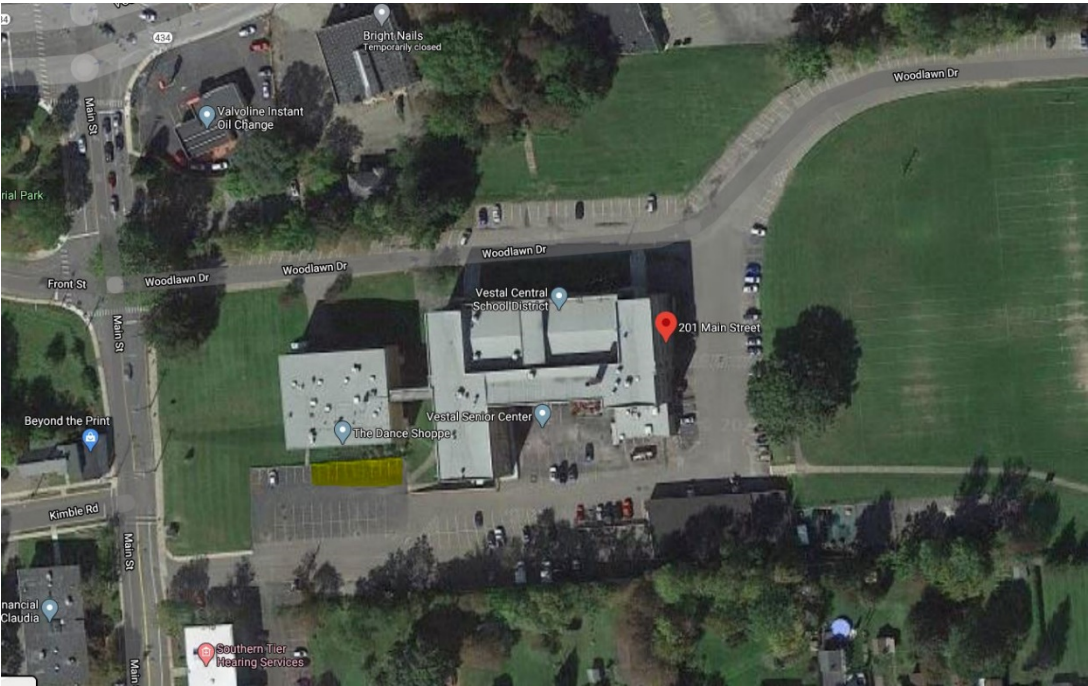
TO: VCSD Families  
FROM: Clifford R. Kasson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Operations and Personnel  
DATE: April 9, 2020  
RE: Updates

I hope this update finds you and your family well during this time of uncertainty. As you know, school closure will continue until at least April 29, 2020. The purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with information pertaining to information technology, student meals, capital project, and on-going information.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:**

- For the families that do not have internet access at home, we have added drive-up WiFi spots at the Administrative Office building and African Road Elementary School. The yellow areas in the photographs indicate the location of the drive-up WiFi. Devices (Chromebooks, laptops, etc) in these areas will be able to connect with the District WiFi.
  - Students can download documents to their Google Drive at the drive-up WiFi locations. This will allow students to use the documents when they are not connected to the internet.
  - To send a document to a teacher from their Google Drive, students may connect to WiFi at a drive-up location, where they can email or upload it to Google Classroom or Schoology.
  - District-issued Chromebooks will automatically connect to the WiFi. If using a personal device, please connect to our Guest Network, VCSD-GUEST.

- In the first photograph, notice the yellow area in the south parking lot of the Administrative Office building located at 201 Main Street, Vestal, NY.



- In the second photograph, notice the yellow area in the east parking lot of African Road Elementary School at 600 South Benita Blvd., Vestal, NY.



- Since the school closure on March 16, 2020, we have distributed over 630 Chromebooks to students needing a District-issued device.
- If a student needs a District-issued Chromebook to utilize at home, please contact the school(s) your student(s) attend by email ([school email addresses can be found here](#)). We will arrange for a Chromebook to be delivered to your home in a timely fashion.
- We will turn on remote content filtering for all school devices. This means internet traffic on any District-issued device will be monitored and filtered as if your student was using the device in school. As a reminder, the acceptable use regulations and code of conduct are still in effect. Any misuse will be handled in accordance with the code of conduct and associated policies.
- As our teachers are conducting video conferencing and lessons online, students are reminded to follow classroom rules and procedures as if they were in a classroom at their school. Inappropriate behavior/actions/language will be handled in accordance with the code of conduct.

## MEALS:

- Vestal continues to participate in the free “Grab and Go” breakfast/lunch program for students 18 years old or younger.
- “Grab and Go” meals (containing three breakfast meals and three lunch meals) are available from 10am to 1pm at Clayton Avenue Elementary School and African Road Elementary School on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- The African Road Elementary School “Grab and Go” pick up location is at the east parking lot near the auditorium doors until further notice.
- Apply for free school meals at [www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com). This will carry over 30 business days into the new school year in September 2020.

## CAPITAL PROJECT:

- Segments of the capital project have been deemed “essential” such as asbestos abatement, roof/flashing repair, and completion of construction areas required for potential return of students.

- A skeleton crew of essential contractor employees are working within designated areas at ARE/VMS and VHS school buildings during the school closure.
- Social distancing among workers on the job site is of high importance.

## **ON-GOING INFORMATION:**

- Governor Cuomo has enacted a COVID-19 Helpline for those struggling with the emotional impact of the current crisis. Please call 1-844-863-9314, 8am to 10pm, seven days a week.
- With recent closure of businesses across the state, many New Yorkers are at risk of losing their health insurance coverage as a result of COVID-19. Many are likely to be eligible for health coverage with financial assistance through [New York State of Health](#). If you have lost employer health insurance coverage, you must apply within 60 days to be eligible for health insurance. You may also call 518-486-9102 or email [NYSOH@health.ny.gov](mailto:NYSOH@health.ny.gov) for more information.
- Per Broome County Executive Jason Garnar, all public playgrounds, athletic courts and sporting fields are closed. Thus, we have placed signage on District playgrounds and Dick Hoover Stadium to remind residents to avoid these areas.
- NYS schools will remain closed until at least April 29, 2020.
- The New York State Education Department has canceled the June 2020 administration of NYS Regents exams.