April 21, 2020

Dear Excel Families,

Earlier today, **Governor Baker announced that schools will remain closed through the end of this academic year.** We know that this is disappointing news, but that it is also necessary in order to both protect and support our community as the virus continues to impact every aspect of our lives. Our communities are being particularly impacted by the Coronavirus outbreak - Chelsea continues to have the highest rate of infection in Massachusetts, and East Boston has one of the highest rates in Boston.

Though our school buildings are closed, we will continue to provide academic content and enrichment resources to support learning at home. While **DESE has canceled MCAS this spring**, AP tests will continue to take place, but at home online, and students who take AP classes are being advised by their teachers about the specific tests they will take.

Meal Service will continue to be available through the end of the school year, including the entire week of April vacation. We are currently serving around 1,000 meals per week and will continue doing so between the hours of 10am and 12pm, Monday through Friday. You can come get a “grab-and-go” package with breakfast and lunch from two sites: Excel Academy - Chelsea and Excel Academy Charter High School. If you need help locating food providers closer to your home, please reach out to Estevan Puerta at 617-466-9384 (Estevan speaks English and Spanish).

Finally, I’d like to remind you to visit our webpage specifically dedicated to COVID-19: [www.excelacademy.org/coronavirusupdates/](https://www.excelacademy.org/coronavirusupdates/) for the latest details on our preparedness activities, response to this evolving situation, and coordinated family resources (including more information on community resources such as food, internet access, and access to unemployment benefits).

Please know that we will always be here to support you and your students.

Please be safe, and thank you as always,

  
CEO, Excel Academy Charter Schools