



April 7, 2020

Dear Excel Families,

Now that we are in our fourth week of school closure, I want to send a note of gratitude to you for engaging with us as we collectively figure out how to support your children through an extraordinary time. Over 90% of Excel students are engaging with their advisor on a weekly basis, and that is a testament to their commitment to their work - and to your commitment to ensuring they are holding themselves to the high expectations they have for themselves.

Excel's teachers and staff continue to work hard to figure out the best ways to support our students' social-emotional and academic needs and goals. We do so recognizing that our students having a strong connection to their community - particularly to their peers and their teachers - is necessary. And we also recognize that things have changed significantly. It is hard to feel a strong sense of connection when we are all doing our best to stay physically disconnected. Please know that we will always be here to support you and your students.

As a reminder, **teachers are available from 12-2 PM daily, Monday through Friday.** In addition, all advisors are reaching out to contact families or students at least once per week to check in on how they are doing. Please contact your child's advisor if you have any questions.

**We are currently serving around 1,000 meals per week and will continue doing so between the hours of 10am and 12pm.** You can come get a "grab-and-go" package with breakfast and lunch from Monday through Friday 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). There is information on other community resources on our webpage specifically dedicated to COVID-19: <https://www.excelacademy.org/coronavirusupdates/>.

Many of you are using Chromebooks from Excel, and we know those occasionally don't work the way we want them to! **If your student has problems with his/her Chromebook, please ask your child to contact his/her advisor.** Advisors can help with many issues and can get your child in touch with our technology team for more help or a replacement Chromebook if needed.

Finally, I'd like to remind you that **this Friday is a school holiday in recognition of Good Friday. Meal service will still be provided,** but teachers will not be available on that day. Similarly, we will be closed over April break - the week of April 20-24th - meaning teachers will also not be available that week.

Please be safe, and thank you as always,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Owen".

CEO, Excel Academy Charter Schools