



Hanlon School Newsletters

April 2020

From the Desk of Mrs. Cronin:

April 9, 2020

Dear Hanlon Families,

It has been wonderful to see how our school community has pivoted to remote learning. If your home is anything like mine, you've had to repurpose rooms in your house so that each family member has their own home office. You've created new routines to get the chores and housework done. You may even be adding in some game nights, walks in the woods, and Zoom gatherings with family and friends. Quality time with family has been a silver lining for many of us.

My 13 year old daughter created a family challenge for us this week. She is having us dress up for a different dinner theme each night. The first night, our theme was "fancy on top, work from home on the bottom."



The second night, she had us each dress like a character from Tiger King (TV show not recommended for elementary aged kids).



Tonight we are dressing up like 'a typical Bostonian' and practicing our accents. Tomorrow is Favorite Movie Character night. I'm passing this family challenge along to all of you: Send a picture of your family to scronin@westwood.k12.ma.us by Tuesday at 10PM. I'm excited to see your theme nights, your Seder or Easter photos, your family PJ night, and any other other creative family pictures. I'll collect them into another Hanlon Family slideshow and send it out next week.

If your family is looking for some fun activities that everyone can participate in, check out what our amazing Extended Day staff have added to the [WPS Continuation of Learning](#) site: [Free Play and After-School](#). You'll find Arts & Crafts, baking projects, games, virtual field trips, and more. Some activities are independent, while others require adult assistance. These are optional activities that can be done any time, and are especially great for that window of time between when online school ends and parents' workday ends.

I'll be hosting Office Hours on Monday afternoon at 2PM. As always, I am available for phone calls and emails any time, but if you want to connect face to face, I'll be available. Please [fill out this form if you plan to join](#), and I will send you a link to the meeting.

On Monday, we will start sending out a brief morning message each day. Monday's message will have a short video from Ms. Pickering. I hope you'll share it with your children!

For those of you who are celebrating Passover and Easter, I wish you a wonderful holiday. Stay well!

Sarah

Dear Hanlon Families,

I hope this email finds you well. I am thinking of you and those close to you during this unprecedented time. On behalf of the Hanlon staff, I want you to know that **we miss you all** and hope you are all staying safe and healthy. We will continue to work together as a community to remain connected and get through this closure. Below you will find a link to a letter from the Superintendent. It explains what learning and communication will look like over the next two weeks. Please read it carefully, and reach out to me or your child's teacher if you have any questions.

We understand these are uncertain and perhaps worrisome times and we want you to know that we are thinking of you all. The physical and social-emotional well-being of the children is our utmost priority. Try to focus on the things that you can do right now vs. the things that you cannot. We hope you're all able to take advantage of the time together and perhaps new opportunities because of this extra time: play outside, explore what nature has to offer, read, exercise, play board games, create, relax, cook/bake, listen to music, work on puzzles, choreograph a dance, and so on! The children are all so talented and creative - we can't wait to hear what they did!

At the same time, I want to reiterate the message that our students and families have heard many times: it's critical that each one of us do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 by limiting - or eliminating altogether - social interactions. As inconvenient as it may be, please encourage your child to take seriously their role in keeping the most vulnerable members of our community healthy by not risking being exposed to COVID-19 in their social circles, among their teammates, their neighbors, etc.

Finally, I want to share my deep appreciation for my colleagues, from Superintendent Parks to our dedicated custodial staff, who have been working countless hours in the past two weeks to keep your child(ren) and the staff healthy and safe.

The past two weeks have presented each of us with unprecedented challenges. Thank you for your patience as we simultaneously focus on everyone's physical and mental health while meeting the need for students to stay engaged in learning. We are hopeful our plan around distance learning will accomplish that goal.

I consider it a great privilege to serve a community that, through this period of uncertainty, has demonstrated a deep commitment both to learning and to one another. I look forward to keeping you updated as we continue to balance those needs.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and take good care of yourselves and each other. I can't wait to see you and your children in person again!

Thank you,
Sarah

If you need to contact the Main Office for attendance/dismissal changes or if you have questions, email astaulo@westwood.k12.ma.us or call 781-326-7500 x8424

Hanlon School on Twitter

Follow @HanlonSchool_ps to see photos of our #HappyatHanlon kids!

School Committee

Did you know that Carol Lewis is Hanlon's School Committee Representative? If you have questions, contact Ms. Lewis at clewis-sc@westwood.k12.ma.us

Hanlon Elementary School, 790 Gay Street, Westwood, MA 02090 781-325-7500 x.8424
Sarah Cronin, Principal

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