



April 9, 2020

Dear LEARN community,

On March 13, I announced the closing of all LEARN schools and programs due to Covid-19. School staff immediately jumped into action developing a virtual learning plan for students. Phase One of our plan offered a regional library of optional learning opportunities. In Phase Two, teachers are providing virtual learning experiences connected to the core ideas and skills of the curriculum. Simultaneously, professional staff in our central office building also became immersed in creating supports that could be offered remotely to all internal and external customers. In barely four weeks, service delivery changed entirely with little or no warning. What an incredible time of growth.

Earlier today, we heard that CT schools will remain closed until May 20 with 'at-home' learning to continue given the need for social distancing. This delay in the re-opening of schools means additional weeks of online learning.

Now, in the spirit of continuous improvement, we must reflect on what we have put in place. We remain committed to our vision/mission that guides us, but what information do we have now that we did not have four weeks ago? What have we heard from our students, families, our member districts, and each other? What information do we need? What have we learned in these last several weeks that we can use to continue to grow and improve our plan – our next level of virtual learning and support?

One step in our improvement cycle is to better understand the virtual learning experiences being delivered by teachers. We ask each teacher to please respond to these [questions](#). The information each person shares will help us build and launch our next phase of learning.

Another step in process improvement is to better understand the programs and services outside of our schools that continue to be offered remotely. Professionals in our Business Office, Human Resources Office, Office of Young Children and Families, Office of Teaching & Learning, Magnet Office, and our Technology Department are invited to reach out to your immediate supervisor. Sharing with your immediate supervisor about successes and challenges to date are encouraged. Your observations and data will be folded into discussions, as we look toward the next several weeks.

Thank you for your commitment to our work and this journey of improvement – especially under these unexpected circumstances. Be well. We are all in this together and together We Are LEARN.

Always,

Kate