

MARCH 25, 2020

Earlier today, Governor Charles D. Baker modified an executive order that previously closed public schools, private schools and non-emergency daycare centers until Monday, April 6, 2020. Under the new order, non-emergency daycare centers and public schools will remain closed until at least Monday, May 4, 2020. This announcement, while not totally unexpected, did come somewhat as a surprise this afternoon. School superintendents across Massachusetts have been in conversations about this very prospect and we expected an announcement Friday by the Commissioner of Education.

Many of you are undoubtedly wondering, what now? Governor Baker emphasized that during this closure, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (“DESE”) would work with school districts to further develop remote learning and educational programming. The Nantucket Public Schools must now move from optional and supplemental assignments to higher expectations of our students. We have an amazing task force, headed by Deputy Superintendent Elizabeth Hallett, made up of teachers, teaching assistants and administrators who will roll out our learning plans for each school. As we shared in our message just yesterday, we expect you will see an increased outreach by your child’s school staff. Our faculty will rise to the occasion in these extraordinary circumstances!

We will expand our district communications to parents, with weekly updates on the website and through our email database