Friday, June 12, 2020

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” ~ Helen Keller

Good Morning Burgess Families,

Who would have even imagined that as we left the building on Friday, March 13th that we would not return to our beloved school for the 2019-2020 school year? Who would have imagined that our teachers would partner with students and parents to successfully implement three phases of remote learning? Who would have imagined the dedication of our support staff? Who would have imagined we would have seen so many amazing acts of kindness and generosity?

For all these reasons, I am hopeful and thankful. I am hopeful that we will safely be together as a school community in the fall. What a return will look like is yet to be determined. I will be in touch as soon as information is available. I am hopeful that the scientific community will develop a vaccine to combat the coronavirus. I am hopeful that these dark times will cause us all to be more appreciative of being side by side one another in the future.

I am thankful for our dedicated teachers who, in a relative moment’s notice, designed and implemented various iterations of remote learning with tremendous skill, flexibility, and care. I am thankful for our dedicated support staff and assistant principals for supporting students and teachers, or cleaning and maintaining our school, or handling mountains of administrative tasks, or providing meals for more than seventy families twice weekly for three months. I am thankful for our parents for partnering with us in support of student learning while juggling all their other roles and responsibilities. I am thankful for the students! I am thankful for their participation, hard work, and for providing all of us with the inspiration and dedication to get it right. I am thankful for the Burgess and Sturbridge community for the tireless support during these historic times.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer finding some time for relaxation and enjoying time with family and friends. As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns or just want to talk.

Respectfully,
Principal Kathy Pelley