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Dear Kearsarge Community,

In the movie Apollo 13, Flight Director Gene Kranz overhears two NASA directors discussing the low survival chances for the crippled spacecraft. ... "This could be the worst disaster NASA has ever experienced." "With all due respect Sir," Kranz intervenes, "I believe this is going to be our finest hour."

Since Monday, March 16, 2020, Kearsarge educators, administrators, and staff have risen to the challenge of converting the Kearsarge instructional model from a "face-to face" learning environment to a "remote learning" environment. Without exception, the full force of creativity, organization, and dedication to families in our community of our professionals were, and continue to be, on display. I am honored to be associated with such a tremendous group of educational professionals focused upon rising to the innovative challenges and meeting the needs of students and families engaging in remote learning during this uncertain time.

Please know that we have worked to ensure that families have access to technology, resources to support internet capability in homes, and are continuing to refine and prepare engaging opportunities for student learning. But that is not all. Our educational professionals have worked to capitalize upon transportation resources and food services from the district to develop and implement a Brown Bag to Go Breakfast and Lunch Program, delivering meals to students at three drop off sites and at local bus stops ensuring that children who are in need of meals are fed during their absence from our schools.

Kearsarge Regional School District educators, administrators, and staff have a long history of proudly supporting innovation. It is in times such as these when this willingness and capacity of professionals to embrace unforeseen challenges truly becomes notable. As with Flight Director Kranz, I too see these challenges as an opportunity for our educational professionals to demonstrate their "finest hour." Without question, Kearsarge educators are dedicated to embracing opportunities for daily growth and improvement in their own teaching skills, and are working to build on each day's failures or successes to refine the instruction and lesson planning necessary to move forward with remote learning. We have much to learn and do to grow in our capacity to effectively utilize remote learning tools and resources, but please know each of our educational professions are focused on that effort.

As we move ahead together, I will continue to update our community on our progress and efforts as a district, as well as share resources to support students and families. Please be sure to visit the school district website at <https://www.kearsarge.org/> and review new links to COVID-19 Information as well as Remote Learning Resources.

In closing, thank you for your support of the Kearsarge Regional Schools and the educational professionals who serve it.

Sincerely,

Winfried Feneberg
Superintendent of Schools