

Qualifying New Bedford Public School students to receive 6 months of free internet

During school closure, New Bedford Public School teachers and staff are connecting regularly with families to ensure they have access to resources and support to continue their student's academic enrichment through the district's remote learning programming. To ensure equity NBPS is collaborating with Comcast Internet Essentials to sponsor internet access for 6 months for families who do not currently have internet access and who have not had Comcast internet in the past 90 days. The program is being made possible in part through funding from the New Bedford Education Foundation, a fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts (Community Foundation).

In recognizing Comcast and the Community Foundation, Superintendent Thomas Anderson stated, "It is vital that we do all we can to ensure that our students have the tools and the access they need to continue learning remotely. Comcast's Internet Essentials program is a means to help provide equity for every student no matter their income status. We thank the Community Foundation for its role in making this a reality for our students."

John Vasconcellos, Community Foundation President, noted, "the COVID19 crisis has presented extreme challenges here at home and across the world. But it is a challenge for which our Community Foundation was created. As a regional leader in philanthropy for education, we manage 75 educational funds that provide scholarship to local students and grants for local organizations to increase educational attainment and opportunity. A grant to help students to continue learning during this crisis is a vital program we are pleased to

assist.”

Qualifying New Bedford Public School families may call the district’s Help Line at the NBPS Family Welcome Center: (508) 997-4515 or email fwc@newbedfordschools.org to receive a personalized code and directions for receiving internet access through Comcast Internet Essentials.