



# **MARSHALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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March 12, 2020

To All MPS Parents/Guardians/Staff:

Michigan has confirmed its first cases of COVID-19 this week and Governor Whitmer declared a State of Emergency for the State of Michigan. In addition, there are numerous higher education universities announcing that they are transitioning to online learning for their students. We understand that these actions and the uncertainty of the COVID-19 has caused some anxiety for our students, families and staff.

Our schools play an important role in promoting public health and responsible actions for the prevention of illness, a role that is taken very seriously. Our focus remains on taking preventive measures, education, and resource sharing. Any actions taken by the district regarding COVID-19 will be in collaboration with health officials based on district needs.

Currently, there are no recommendations from the Calhoun County Public Health Department to close school. Consequently, Marshall Public Schools will remain open. We will continue to monitor with the Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD), Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for recommendations as it pertains to closing school.

MDE and MDHHS published a memo recommending that schools limit large gatherings of greater than 100 people in shared spaces. Because of this recommendation all non-athletic after-school activities will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Currently, the district is following MHSAA guidelines as it pertains to athletics, please look for additional information to follow as we are updated.

We recognize parents/guardians will make the decision they feel is in the best interest of their students. If the decision is made to keep your student at home, please follow our normal absence protocols and notify school buildings directly.

Information about the outbreak is changing rapidly. Please continue to monitor district communication tools: website, social media, and other notification systems. In addition to district communications, you can stay informed by regularly visiting [Michigan.gov/coronavirus](https://michigan.gov/coronavirus).

Sincerely,

Dr. Randy Davis  
Superintendent