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William Buchko
President, BOE

PRACTICE SELF-CONTROL RESPECT OUTSTANDING UNITY DRIVEN

April 10, 2020

Parents and Guardians,

As you have probably heard by now, New York State Governor Cuomo has extended the school closures for the state through April 29, 2020. At this time, we anticipate students will return on Thursday, April 30, 2020 if there are no other extensions.

As we continue into uncharted waters, we recognize that our usual grading systems and processes will not work for the learning opportunities we are providing. At the same time we do want to provide some consistency with regard to how students are being evaluated. We have created a [Distance Learning Rubric](#) that is designed to be used as a standardized guide for students in grades 2-12. We know this is not perfect, we have not had the time to put this through the usual vetting process. It is designed to provide students with some flexibility. Starting the week of April 13 it will be utilized by teachers to provide weekly feedback to students about their performance. Ultimately the performance each week will contribute to determining course completion. This feedback will be shared each week with students in Schoology or other by other means as appropriate.

With the extension of the state school closures, Governor Cuomo announced the state's Regents Exams are also cancelled for this school year. It is particularly important that students in Regents courses know that the cancelling of Regents Exams means that the deciding factor for determining if a student receives Regents credit will be the evaluation of their class work. The cancellation of Regents does not mean that everyone gets Regents credit, instead it means doing classwork is the ONLY factor in getting credit.

We continue to hold off on cancelling or postponing events because of our hope for a return to normal. The extension of the closure has caused us to revisit our calendar and cancel or postpone more spring events. Unfortunately we must postpone the high school Prom, postpone the middle school Spring Fling, cancel the Youth Triathlon and cancel the 8th grade trip to Washington DC. We will be looking to find new dates for the Prom and Spring Fling when we return and Mr. Butt and Mrs. Mereness will be working with parents to maximize refunds for the 8th grade trip. A quick summary of spring events and current status can be found online [here](#).

We recognize this is a difficult time for many families and we are here to help our students and parents as needed. All of our teachers are available by email and you can request video

conferencing calls for additional help or clarification on an assignment. Our teacher's emails can be found on our website or you can also send a message by using Schoology. Additional information regarding our technology platforms can be found on our website under the "[Parent and Guardian Information: Online Instruction and More During COVID-19 Closure](#)" link. Additionally, if you are having any issues with securing internet access, please contact the district office directly at: 315-986-3521 ext. 8-4313.

As the Covid-19 situation continues to evolve, we too are continuing to adapt and make changes. We will continue to provide updates as we are informed, however in the meantime, if you need help with food for students, mental health support, or help securing childcare please check out the [Parent and Guardian Information: Online Instruction and More During COVID-19 Closure](#) page on our website for contact information and resources.

We are all in this together, and we will get through this together. Stay well.

Sincerely,

Shawn Van Scoy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools