

# *Southeast Fountain School Corporation*

*744 E. US Highway 136  
Veedersburg, Indiana 47987-9783*

*Mr. Dan L. Foster, Ed.S.  
Superintendent*

*Phone: (765) 294-2254  
Fax: (765) 294-3200*

April 2, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I apologize for sending another letter to you so soon, however, in light of the announcement today we wanted to reach out to our SEF families and staff and share what information we can at this time.

I am sure by now many of you have seen or heard the news that in a press conference today Governor Holcomb has closed all Indiana schools through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. As this information was not released to school corporations prior to the announcement, like you, our administrative team also needs time to evaluate exactly what this may mean and how to proceed.

Until our team is able to meet and receive further guidance from the Governor's office, the State Board of Education, and the Department of Education, here are a few other things we can share at this time.

## ***What does this mean to you?***

\*All campus facilities will now remain closed to all but essential personnel through at least May 31st.

\*This closure naturally includes all events, trips, and practices set to occur through the end of the school year.

\*Graduation requirements--Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. McCormick stated today that we will be permitted to utilize credits earned after seven semesters as well as courses in which seniors are currently enrolled to meet requirements. You have our pledge that we will do everything in our power to ensure that current seniors who were on track to graduate will indeed receive their diplomas. Mrs. Hammond and Mr. Webb have already started a spreadsheet tracking every current senior to ensure nobody is

missed.

\*Having stated the above, we are also uncertain as to what or when graduation could possibly look like this year.

\*I will continue to work with Aramark (our food service provider) to extend our meals during the regularly scheduled days in May but this will also depend on waivers from both the federal and state.

\*As a reminder, we have created a COVID-19/Coronavirus website that can be found <https://sites.google.com/sefschools.org/covid-19/home>. We encourage you to scroll the tabs at the top of the page for more specific information. Each school is listed with personnel for school-specific questions (administration, athletics, guidance, technology, etc.), however, if you find yourself with a question and you just aren't sure where to send the question, we have created a [COVID19info@sefschools.org](mailto:COVID19info@sefschools.org) email address that will send an email to the administrative team and we will respond accordingly.

\*We are in the continual process of providing guidance to instructional staff with ways to check in with their students and offer suggestions for learning opportunities (which can be found under the "Student Learning" tab on the website). Our focus remains on the safety and well-being of students and families within the SEFSC community. Additionally, we must be mindful of student learning, and their continued academic success. As you are aware, many of our learners do not have access to the internet or to a computer or mobile device. Many students are caring for their younger siblings and family members, while the adults in the household continue working out of necessity. During this time of confusion and uncertainty, it is important that we remain united and connected. This also means recognizing that, right now, prioritizing the health and well-being of our students may mean somewhat deprioritizing learning goals.

Southeast Fountain School Corporation is dedicated to providing supplemental and enrichment learning opportunities for our students and families during this extended time of school closure. We are sharing many resources, which are academically engaged and challenged while social distancing. We believe stimulating the mind leads to a sense of fulfillment, and ultimately can lead to a more positive experience during this time of absence from school.

We will continue to review all guidance from the Department of Education and discuss internally how best to meet the widely-varying needs of our students.

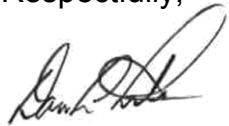
\*Seniors--Wow, seniors, seniors, seniors...nothing can really be said at this time to ease your frustration, anger, disappointment, etc. and we hear you and understand. We are so sorry this has occurred but this is obviously something that none of us have encountered in our lifetimes. I haven't known many of you very long but I do know that you will rise above this ordeal and someday it may be a crazy story to share with your grandchildren. :-)

\*All students--WE MISS YOU!! Yes, like any vacation it is nice to have a few days away but I can assure you I have seen so many emails, texts, posts, etc. from the entire SEF staff that WANTS to be back at school with you!!!

\*Please continue to practice social-distancing as well as other precautions and, if necessary, please self-quarantine.

Again, we are fully aware this continues to present challenges to our families. The decision from Governor Holcomb and his team has been reached with the ultimate safety of all students, staff, and the communities-at-large in mind.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan L. Foster', written in a cursive style.

Dan L. Foster, Ed.S.  
Superintendent