CROSS COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

HOME OF THE COUGARS

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Celebrate the past... Embrace the Future

April 3, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

On April 2nd, I received a directive from Governor Ricketts that all schools in Nebraska are closed to students through May 31st. This is NOT the way we wanted the school year to end and I still had hope that we would have an opportunity for all of our students and teachers to finish the school year together in May. I simply cannot put into words the disappointment I share with our staff, students and especially our Senior Class.

This latest directive does not end our remote enrichment/learning that is already in place. School is in session....we simply have been directed that we cannot have students physically at the school facility for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. I will be meeting with my administrative team in the near future to put together an updated learning plan now that we know that remote enrichment/learning has been extended through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Once that plan is finalized, we will be communicating with teachers, students and parents/guardians. Regardless of what the new plan is, we expect the students to complete the work and to participate in class when asked to do so as best as they can. We understand that students will NOT get all of the content they would have during the 4th quarter, and a plan will be put in place next fall for content review and catch-up that is vital to continue.

The NSAA has also canceled all of the spring activities and sporting events for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. In addition to the NSAA sponsored activities, Cross County has canceled all of our concerts, banquets and events at the local level due to the large group restriction mandate. Our coaches and sponsors will honor all of the things our students have accomplished through the 19-20 school year and we will be getting those recognitions to the students. More details on that as we get a plan put together.

Two capstone events we are going to postpone indefinitely at this time are prom and graduation. More time and input is needed from the Board of Education, sponsors, parents, teachers and students before a decision is made on if, when, or how those events could look.

My administrative team will also be meeting soon to discuss how we will facilitate checking in books/devices/school materials that students have in their possession. There are so many details to discuss on this topic that all I can say at this time is more information will be coming to you on how we will check students in for the 2019-2020 school year.

We launched our lunch program on Friday, April 3rd. We will serve lunch to families who sign up on all of our regular scheduled calendar days. For more information, please refer to the letter you received last week regarding school lunches or use the quick reference guide included at the end of this letter. I want you to know now that if the Governor issues a "shelter in place" order/mandate, we would not be able to deliver the meals. If a "shelter in place" mandate is issued, we will communicate with the families who are utilizing the school lunch/breakfast program.

As always, information and changes concerning COVID-19 continue to come in at a rapid pace and plans will continue to evolve and change. I can't thank you all enough for your understanding and patience with

everything. Decisions are being made at such a rapid pace and are being made on issues that nobódy has ever had to face before. My sincere "THANKS" to you for that.

Lastly, I just want to say that as a school family, we love our students, the parents and the entire community. We MISS our students....we miss seeing their smiles....we miss interacting and building those relationships. This has been an incredibly challenging time in our school system and throughout the world. WE will get through this TOGETHER and I do believe we will be even better because of it when it is over. Stay well!

Sincerely,

Brent Hollinger

Superintendent of Schools

Weekly Meal Reservation Instructions

If you have not yet reserved meals and would like to do so, go to our website at *crosscountyschools.org* and click on the *Weekly Meal Reservation* link.

You can reserve meals for the following week by Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

If you are unable to reserve on the link, please contact me directly at **lfolts@crosscounty.esu7.org**

Please include the following information:

- *names of students reserving lunch (1-18 years of age)
- *preferred pick up site (Stromsburg, Benedict, Osceola)
- *date(s) to receive meals
- *phone number you can be reached