

# South Newton School Corporation

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Kentland, IN 47951

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Casey Hall  
Superintendent

Kim Wright  
Payroll & Personnel

Marci Hall  
Treasurer

Dear South Newton Family:

April 7, 2020

I hope everybody is staying in, staying safe, and staying healthy. We have to continue to do our part to slow the spread of the Coronavirus. I know I have reached out to everybody quite a bit lately, but I will continue to keep you informed on any updates we are provided from the Governor's office or the Indiana Department of Education.

Last Thursday, I sent an updated letter explaining the Governor's decision to shut down schools for the remainder of 2019-2020 school year. While all of us were hoping we could avoid a decision like this one, it is the right decision for everyone's health and safety. This last month has been crazy for all of us as a school community and for society in general. I have always appreciated living here in Newton County because of how well people support each other and are always willing to go the extra mile for each other. It is times, like we are currently living, where the generosity of our people and our communities comes to the forefront. We will overcome this, but we must stay positive and supportive!

In last week's letter, I mentioned I would send out more guidance on how we are going to finish the school year regarding E-learning days. It took a few days of researching, discussing, and thinking about how I wanted to proceed after hearing the options the Governor laid out for schools. South Newton has decided to use this option, which is part of the executive order the Governor signed on April 2nd:

*Schools must continue to provide instruction until they complete at least twenty (20) additional days of remote learning between the date of this Executive Order and the end of the School Year. For schools choosing this option but that still fall short of the one-hundred sixty (160) instructional day requirement, I authorize the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) to waive the additional days necessary to reach one-hundred sixty (160) instructional days.*

What does this executive order mean for South Newton? It is pretty simple; we just need to continue doing what we are doing. Other than this week and next, we are utilizing Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays as E-learning days and Tuesdays and Thursdays for waiver days for the month of April. Remember, this Friday, April 10th and Monday April 13th were already scheduled days off, so we are honoring those days as such. This Friday and next Monday are not E-learning or waiver days; they are vacation days.

We are going to continue the month of May with exactly what we are doing the month of April. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays will be E-Learning and Tuesdays and Thursdays will be waiver days. Here is the schedule for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year:

E-Learning Days	April 8, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29 May 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22
Waiver Days	April 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 May 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21

As you can see, our last day of the school year will be on May 22, 2020. When you add April 3 and April 6 to the E-learning days listed above, you will see that South Newton will have met the requirement of twenty additional days of remote learning between the date of the Executive Order and the end of the school year.

While we now know when the 2019-2020 school year will officially end, there are still many questions yet to be answered. You will continue to receive updated information, once we receive it, from either the building principals, Mr. Taylor, or me. I mentioned it before, but many answers to our questions must be answered by either the Governor's office and/or the Indiana Department of Education. Please continue to be patient and rest assured we are all in this together!

While I know all of us have many education related questions, we cannot forget that education is not our top priority at this time. My biggest priority right now is the health and safety of our students, staff, parents, families, and communities. We need to make sure we are continuing to check in on each other, lifting each other up during these tough times, and staying positive through all of this. Thank you for your patience and support through the last month, as well as the foreseeable future. I do not know when this will all end, but it will! Until then, please stay home and stay safe!

Sincerely,  
Mr. Hall

**Rebel Family – United We Grow**