

Dear Students, Families and Staff,

Today, Governor Kim Reynolds announced that all schools in Iowa will remain closed through the end of the school year to help prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

This announcement will continue to affect all Schleswig Community School District programming, including before and after-school activities, all extracurricular practices and competitions, music programs, and all weekend events.

I know that this decision, by Governor Reynolds, has caused a great deal of concern and disappointment for our students, staff, and families. The pandemic arrived quickly, and when we first were directed to close our school buildings in March, we did not realize it would be the last time we would see our students or colleagues in person this school year. Please know that we share in your disappointment. This is not what any of us signed up for. This certainly isn't the experience we desired for any of our students, especially our 8th graders in their final year with us. It is normal and acceptable to feel strong emotions and frustrations. We completely understand, and quite frankly, share the same emotions you do. We are here for you. This pandemic is not your fault, and we will do everything in our power to make sure we provide the best education possible given the circumstances. We will continue to provide a variety of learning and enrichment activities for our students.

Per our district calendar, the last day of school for students is Friday, May 22. We will continue with virtual learning until that date, just as we have over the past several weeks. We encourage all families to keep their students engaged in these activities to ensure learning continues to take place through the end of the school year. We know that you have many questions about how this extended school closure will impact your child(ren). We are continuing to work with the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa's Area Education Agencies, and many other school districts to uncover answers. Once we have additional information, we will communicate it out to each of you.

Once again, thank you for your patience, understanding, and flexibility during this unprecedented time. We will get through this together. Please continue to stay safe, practice social distancing, and remain at home as much as possible.