## Regional School Unit No. 56

147 Weld Street, Dixfield, Maine 04224 Phone: (207)562-4300 - Fax: (207)562-6075

www.rsu56.org

Pam Doyen, Superintendent of Schools

March 15, 2020

## Good Afternoon:

RSU 56 has been continually monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to be proactive in protecting the health and safety of our community, **RSU 56 schools will be closed for students Monday, March 16**<sup>th</sup> **through Friday, March 27**<sup>th</sup>. This closure is not the result of any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our immediate communities. This decision was made in consultation with many, and out of an abundance of caution, to follow the rapidly changing guidance regarding enhancing social distancing efforts. This decision has not been made lightly and we certainly empathize and understand the significant burden this will cause families in the coming days.

On Monday, staff will report to work as usual and will participate in lesson planning so that we may provide the best possible distance learning opportunities for students.

Much more information will be forthcoming on this closure, but we want to communicate this news to you as soon as possible so you may begin planning for child care and other concerns that will be raised by this decision. We will be working with our administrative team and board members to provide more information as soon as possible.

During this closure, we ask that you assist by minimizing group meetings of students and adults. Practicing social distancing and good personal hygiene (hand washing regularly) are the two greatest steps we can take to protect our communities from the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you,

Paul Hayr

Pam Doyen, Superintendent of Schools