



3652 Blue Creek Road • Billings, MT 59101
Phone: 406-259-0653 • Fax: 406-259-9378

March 15, 2020

Hello Students, Families, and Friends,

Today the directive below came from Governor Bullock:

Governor Bullock Directs the Closure of Public K-12 Schools for Two Weeks; Strongly Recommends Social Distancing Measures to Slow the Spread of COVID-19

MONTANA – Governor Steve Bullock today announced a set of directives and guidance to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect vulnerable Montanans, including closing of public K-12 schools, social distancing measures, and limiting visitation at nursing home facilities.

“As governor, it is my top priority to protect the health and safety of Montanans, particularly our most vulnerable, at a time when we face the potential for extraordinary health risks from coronavirus in our state,” said Governor Bullock. **“Social distancing is one of the most important primary protective measures to flatten the curve of this virus. I cannot underscore the seriousness of following these measures to help our neighbors, friends, and families.”**

Governor Bullock directed Montana’s public K-12 schools to close starting tomorrow, March 16 until March 27. During this time, schools will engage in planning to provide arrangements to provide free meals to students who need them, pursuant to a waiver obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture, and to provide for all other matters and services that students need in the event of future or ongoing closure. Schools will continue to receive all state funding during this two-week closure.

The state will work with schools during this period to evaluate and consider next steps as needed. The decision to close schools is to slow the spread and is not in response to an outbreak in schools.

Given these circumstances the following is taking place:

- **Meals...**

We will provide grab and go meals for those families participating in the Free and Reduced Meals program for the closure dates of 3/16/2020-3/20/2020 and 3/23/2020-3/27/2020. If you wish to utilize this meal option please email Mrs. Combs at combs@bluecreekschool.org so she can prepare the appropriate number of grab and go meals. In addition, if you are in need and have not qualified for this program you may contact Mrs. Combs for provision of meals. These can be picked up curbside at the school during the following times:

Breakfast 7:30 am-7:55 am
Lunch 11:30 am-12:00 pm

- **Planning and preparing...**

Currently our staff is working on planning and preparing materials, and resources for you to have available to you as your students are away from school during this two week closure.

- **Parent Teacher Conferences...**

Looking ahead, we will be discussing the format for PTC's and alternatives to in-person meetings. Again, we will be in communication about the developments with this as well.

- **Cleaning...**we will be performing deep cleaning of the building and classroom areas.

- **Again, take care of you, your family, and loved ones!**

Thank you for being such an important part of Blue Creek School.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Rude

Mrs. Cathi Rude,
Superintendent/Principal
rude@bluecreekschool.org