

PETTISVILLE SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 53001, 232 Summit Street, Pettisville, OH 43553
Telephone 419-446-2705 Fax 419-445-2992 Pettisvilleschools.org

Board of Education

Brent Hoylman, President
Brent King, Vice President
Rick Graber
John King
Scott Rupp
Christopher Lee, Treasurer

Administration

Stephen Switzer, Ph. D., Superintendent
Michael Lane, High School Principal
Jason Waldvogel, Elementary Principal
Amanda Wyman, High School Counselor
Victoria Jordan, Elementary Counselor
Brian Leppelmeier, Director of Athletics

March 18, 2020

A letter to parents from Steve Switzer, Superintendent, Pettisville Schools

I would like to share some current information about the COVID 19 pandemic, specifically as it relates to our school. These are indeed unique and challenging times and we seek a continued interest in your prayers for guidance and wisdom for us all.

The timing of our spring break (this week, March 16 through 20) provided a benefit that some of our area districts did not have...time to plan. That has been greatly beneficial as we plan our response to this unprecedented event.

Please note that all of our communications will be **dated**. This is extremely important as this situation changes from day to day and hour to hour. What may be announced one day could change the next.

ALL UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.PETTISVILLESCHOOLS.ORG;

Click on the **COVID 19** Tab at the top right of the page.

The term “cancel” will be used to indicate that an event will not be held as scheduled. We do not know what events will later be rescheduled. Some “cancelled” events might be rescheduled but many will not.

The following is an overview of where we are today, Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

1. Due to the order of Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio Schools will be closed until further notice. Schools will definitely be closed through April 3.
 - a. The decision to re-open schools will be made by state officials.
 - b. The governor has indicated that the closure may extend beyond the announced date.
2. The Pettisville School building will be closed and locked during the time of closure.
 - a. No face to face student activities will take place during the closure either on or off site.
 - b. ALL EVENTS related to the school during the closure are canceled.
3. The Pettisville faculty will use the first several days after spring break (starting Monday, March 23, 2020) to plan and prepare for on-line and directed educational activities.
4. On Wednesday or Thursday, (March 25 or 26) teachers will begin learning activities with our students with the exact date to be determined.
 - a. We will notify families via Honeywell InstantAlerts, emails, and on our web site.
 - i. All planned InstantAlerts from us will come during the 6:30 to 7:00 PM timeframe in the evening.

5. **Learning at Home:** Next week we will provide resources for in-home activities. I wish to emphasize a few important elements:
 - a. The COVID 19 pandemic is indeed a national and worldwide event to be taken very seriously and we urge all to follow the guidelines regarding isolation and social distancing and all other directives.
 - b. However, please do not allow in-home education to become a stressor or burden.
 - i. If there are difficulties understanding what is presented, technical problems, or confusion of any sort, please contact the appropriate school source for assistance.
 - ii. If you don't know who to contact, leave me a voicemail at my desk phone (**419-446-7607**) and I will route it to the appropriate person.
 - c. No student will suffer loss (lower grades, penalty for missed deadlines, etc.) because of the necessity to work from home.
6. **Students in K-3:** Some information and packets were sent home with students on Friday, March 13 and more information on the approach will be forthcoming from teachers next week. Our teachers are working to provide the resources necessary for appropriate at home activities for these age levels.
7. **Students in 4-12:** We believe that all of our students in grades 4-12 have Chromebooks at home.
 - a. Based on our survey and research, it is our understanding that most if not all students have internet access at home.
 - b. If you do not have internet access available for your student(s) or do not have a Chromebook, please call my desk phone and leave a message and we will attempt to help.
8. **Parents: do you need assistance with student meals after spring break** If you do, please complete the Google survey by clicking: <https://forms.gle/gnWPzuckfGKtuN8r67> .
 - a. If you do not have internet access, please call my desk phone and leave a message, including your name, return phone number, names of students for whom you need lunches, and if you will be able to pick up the lunches at the school.
 - b. Mrs. Sandra Blackwood and the cafeteria staff will be developing a plan once we have determined the level of need.
9. **Recycle Center Closed.** The Pettisville recycle center, operated by the Pettisville FFA, is CLOSED as are all other recycle sites in Fulton County. Please do not use the recycle center. We will notify you when the center re-opens.

Thank you all for your efforts in this time of great challenge! If you have any questions, please call my desk phone at 419-446-7607 and leave a message.

Steve Switzer, Superintendent