

March 19, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

I know many of you have questions regarding the shutdown of the schools and our plans moving forward. I want to take this opportunity to update you with regard to the ongoing COVID 19 shutdown and provide you with information, as we know it at this time. Please be aware that we are under the direction of the Office of the Governor, the PA Department of Education, the PA Department of Health and in addition must continue to follow Federal guidance during this period so specific answers may not be available immediately.

- 1. The district is operating our cafeteria for brown bag lunch/breakfast for all Sharon residents ages 18 and under effective March 18, 2020 and continuing Monday-Friday each week. Meals will be provided between 11am and 1pm at each of the elementary school buildings. While there is no charge for the meals, the child must be present to receive the lunch/breakfast. Children are NOT permitted to eat at the school site. This is a true "grab-and-go" mealtime. Unfortunately, we are not permitted to provide adult meals at this time.
- 2. The maintenance and custodial staff are doing a great job in deep cleaning all building sites. All HVAC filters are being changed and all surfaces are being cleaned with hospital grade disinfectant. We are keeping the building in "lockdown" mode to ensure that they are clean and safe for our student's and staff's return.
- 3. As a district, we are developing instructional materials for our students which will permit us to provide some level of continuous instruction should the shutdown continue beyond March 27. Parents and guardians will be receiving information regarding the specifics of this program in the coming days. In the meantime, we are following the directives of the Office of Governor and not providing specific instructional materials at this time.
- 4. For our senior class. Please be assured that all of our efforts are focused on making sure that you complete your final year at Sharon High and receive your diploma. Efforts are well underway to ensure that you will be able to finish all course work and be provided the resources you will need to move on into the next phase of your school or work lives.

- 5. Our website continues to be the best means of up-to-date information. Please review it often during this shutdown period. We have recently added links to free, online web resources that you and your children can use to keep their brains engaged.
- 6. If you have specific questions with regard to our district procedures, please reach out to your building principals or my office. We will provide you with whatever accurate information we have available at the time. Please note, however, that the information we receive changes minute-by-minute.

Finally, I would like to extend a special thank you to my administrative team and clerical staff for their continued support of our students, staff and community. Also, to our teaching and paraprofessional staff for their support of all of our initiatives and for their work in preparing quality materials in the event of a longer shutdown. Finally, to our maintenance and custodial staff who are ensuring a safe environment for our students and staff to return to once schools reopen I extend special thanks!

I know this is a lot of information but I want to be as transparent as possible and to answer as many of your questions as I can as regularly as possible.

Thank you for your continue efforts, stay safe and healthy!

Míchael J. Calla

Michael Calla Superintendent Sharon City School District