



# CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 51

*Encourage Excellence Every Day with Compassion, Commitment, and Community*

March 21, 2020

Dear Central School District Families,

It has been tremendously inspiring to witness all the ways our teachers, staff and principals are interacting with our students and their families. Within hours after the announcement that schools were going to be closed, our teachers, staff and administration began planning for all the ways we could stay connected and continue learning for all of our students. Administrators and teachers have been utilizing technology such as Google Hangout and YouTube videos to connect with colleagues and students. Technology has allowed our Central family to practice physical distancing while promoting social solidarity. We know together we will get through this.

On Friday, March 20th, Governor Pritzker issued an executive order requiring residents to “stay at home” effective Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm, through the end of the day, April 7. As part of the Governor’s order, he announced that schools will remain closed with a new tentative reopening date of April 8. We recognize that this development may raise questions about the impact on students, staff, and families. Central 51 is committed to continuing the learning process for all of our students throughout the closure. Our teachers, in collaboration with our principals, are working diligently to develop meaningful learning experiences and opportunities for our students. We anticipate further guidance and details from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) next week on what the extended school closure means for student online attendance, grading requirements, and required school attendance days. Once we have that guidance, we will communicate further with our students, families and staff.

## **Additional Information and Reminders:**

- We have been working with several local agencies to help meet the needs of our families. Principals have also reached out to check on families. Central 51 is providing students in need with meals during this time and will continue to do so throughout the closure. If you or a Central student you know is in need of meals, please contact Principal, Brian Hoelscher-[bhoelscher@central51.net](mailto:bhoelscher@central51.net).
- The symptoms of coronavirus are similar to the regular seasonal influenza and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, and coughing. Some people with coronavirus have reported additional symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. In some situations, the virus can develop into pneumonia. Parents, students, and staff members exhibiting flu-like symptoms are asked to contact their primary care physician for further

instruction and to *notify the Tazewell County Health Department via their COVID-19 line at 309-929-0294*. Individuals needing medical care for any other reason should call their medical provider to report their illness prior to seeking care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital to verify their ability to treat additional cases.

- Due to the Executive Order by Governor Pritzker all playgrounds are closed. Stay quarantined if at all possible and follow all [CDC guidelines](#).
- As a reminder to your student(s) to practice good hygiene, consider printing and placing [this poster](#) around the house.

Please use this time to focus on staying safe by staying quarantined to help slow the spread of the virus. As always, thank you for your patience and support as we all work through the COVID-19 pandemic. As you have seen, this situation is evolving rapidly. We will continue to communicate in a timely and transparent manner as events unfold.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you have a specific need for your student during this time. #whateverittakes #wegotthis

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Heidbreder". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" at the beginning.

Superintendent, Central School District 51  
309-444-3943 | [dheidbreder@central51.net](mailto:dheidbreder@central51.net)