



Saturday, March 21, 2020

Hello JT Family,

I hope this finds everyone well! Before this past week, I was not familiar with terms like “social distancing” and “shelter in place,” but these are “unprecedented times.” I do want to update you on a few items.

First, since things do change and progress quickly, I cannot tell you what the long-term plans are moving forward. However, I can let you know what the plan is for the near future. The state has emphasized that this mandatory closure is a time to play defense for the health and well-being of our students, staff, and community. They have emphasized that we are to not have anyone on our campuses other than critical clerical and administrative staff to assist with child nutrition, payroll, and billing. Because faculty and staff are not allowed on campus, there will not be any instruction during this first phase. During this time, we will be formulating a plan for instruction should we be out longer than April 6th.

We have organized a time to pick-up your child’s essential medications. Principals will be available at each site on Monday, March 23rd from 9am to 11am. In order to practice social distancing we ask that you stay in your car. Principals will be watching out. Medication will be brought out to you, and it can only be picked up by a parent/guardian.

Next, we will be providing “Grab and Go” meals for any child at the north campus Monday through Friday between 10:30am and 12:30pm. Children, 18 years and under, will receive lunch for the current day and breakfast for the morning at NO COST. Funding to feed students is being provided through the Summer Feeding Program, which we partner with Claremore during the summers. The state has applied for a waiver for schools like ours and we may, moving forward, provide it directly from our school. However, in the meantime we have partnered again with Claremore Public Schools. You can find a letter providing more details and instruction on our website and social media.

I know we have several important activities that occur during the fourth quarter and end of the year that are up in the air. We will make decisions on these as all of this plays out. We will be checking with Blue & Gold to see if we can turn in our orders after this two week period. There will be decisions made regarding distribution of third quarter report cards in the near future. State testing has been cancelled for this year.

I understand the fear and anxiety that come with the unknown and also know that this situation can be consuming. Please do not let this consume you, and most importantly, our students. Hopefully our families are focusing on and finding things that bring you joy. I have received several messages from

teachers and staff that they miss their students and are ready to see them. I absolutely agree, however, I will always do what is in the best interest of our students, staff, and community as a whole.

As always, thank you for your patience and understanding during this definitely odd and “unprecedented time.”

Bless you all,

Ed Crum
Superintendent, Justus-Tiawah School