

# OLD FORT LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Home of the Stockaders

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**Tom Peiffer, Superintendent**

**Thomas Siloy, Treasurer**

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March 26, 2020

Dear Stockaders,

After meeting with the Leadership Team yesterday, it seems we are moving forward with the educational process via virtual learning in our district. Many thanks to our teachers, technology coordinator, students, parents and our principals for making this adjustment to online learning. We will improve performance district-wide as time goes by and we adjust to many new learning opportunities. Great job!

Since update #3 went home last Thursday, we have distributed Chromebooks to over 100 students. Our breakfast/lunch program has continued for a second week. Both buildings remained on a hard close this week with only essential personnel at both building sites. We continue to keep everyone safe. Thanks to these folks for their outstanding efforts.

We will remain on a hard close next week, March 30 through April 3, with only essential staff at both building sites. This remains our safest option as we follow Governor DeWine's stay at home order.

Tomorrow, Governor DeWine has promised to sign into law HB197 in response to the Covid-19 health crisis. The bill makes the following education-related changes:

- Eliminates state and federal testing for the 2019-2020 school year
- Prohibits issuing district report cards for the 2019-2020 school year
- Waives the third-grade reading guarantee retention requirement
- Permits schools to grant high school diplomas to seniors on track to graduate and for whom the principal determines that the student has successfully completed the curriculum
- Prohibits the use of 2019-2020 value added data for the purpose of teacher evaluations
- Permits schools to make up any number of days or hours necessary to meet minimum instructional hour requirements through distance learning

I urge all parents to have students complete assigned virtual lessons to keep our district in compliance with HB197 allowing the district to count these lessons towards the hours needed to meet minimum state standards for the 2019-2020 school year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Our district will continue to follow guidelines from both the Governor's office and local health department. At this point no decision has been made on our return to school this academic year. Time will tell if we are able to return, but if we continue to do the right things, we will certainly be together safely much sooner.

Sincerely,

*Tom Peiffer*  
Superintendent