

Dr. Nathan S. Schilling, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

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Chief School Business Official

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Director of Curriculum & Assessment

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## LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT 158



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ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
18300 Greenbay Avenue  
Lansing, IL 60438-3009  
P: (708) 474-6700  
F: (708) 474-9976

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*"Putting the Children First with a Commitment to Continuous Improvement"*

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March 31, 2020

### REMOTE LEARNING LETTER

Dear #**158Strong** Community,

As we enter our third week of mandatory school closure in Illinois due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I want to provide you with an update on how Lansing School District 158 is handling remote learning. Starting today, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has determined that all school days for the remainder of the closure are Remote Learning Days or Remote Learning Planning Days. These days do not need to be made up at the end of the school year and will count as regular days of pupil attendance. **District 158 will continue to make home learning activities available to all students on our district website and at the Coolidge Elementary School Kitchen when grab-and-go meals are served.** Furthermore, be on the lookout for a Remote Learning Plan from District 158 in the near future that will outline additional supports as we continue to facilitate learning from home. ISBE has determined that state standardized tests such as the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) have been cancelled this year. The goal of District 158's Remote Learning Plan will be to keep students engaged educationally and reinforce existing knowledge and skills, not teach or assess new content.

I would also like to inform our community that a District 158 staff member was recently diagnosed with COVID-19. This employee was last present in one of our schools on March 16, 2020 and is safely quarantined at home after receiving medical attention. Our buildings have been thoroughly deep cleaned and we have notified the appropriate authorities, who told us the risk of exposure to students and staff is low. However, please continue to practice the proper health precautions such as frequent, rigorous hand washing; safe social distancing; and sheltering at home. Self-monitor for symptoms such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath and contact your health care provider if medical evaluation is needed. Due to health privacy laws, the identity of the affected staff member will not be released and I ask our community to respect their privacy during this difficult time.

Finally, I would like to share that District 158 is currently completing our donation of 50 refurbished laptop computers to families experiencing economic hardship. It is our hope that this initiative will help students at all of our schools to remain educationally engaged and have access to technology during the school closure.

Please contact the office of your child's school with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan S. Schilling, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Lansing School District 158

