



April 2, 2020

I hope to use this letter to update you on the information that I have regarding Executive Order 2020-35 regarding the Suspension of the 2019-20 school year. Here are some of the highlights that I gather from the order.

School Closure:

The school year is suspended for the year, unless a ban on public gatherings is lifted.

Continued Learning:

By April 3, 2020, Michigan Department of Education shall develop a template for the Continued Learning Plan the District must follow.

The "Plan" must include:

- A method to provide alternate modes of instruction.
- A method to keep pupils at the center of educational activities.
- A description to manage and monitor student learning.
- A description how the administration, school board, and teachers collaborated in development of plan.
- A description of how district will notify pupils and parents of the plan.
- A method to provide or arrange for food distribution to eligible pupils.
- Continue to pay school employees.
- A method to evaluate the participation by pupils.
- A method or provide mental health support to pupils.

The "Plan" must be approved by the ISD. Districts with approved plans are eligible to receive continued payments from the State School Aid Fund for 2019-2020. Decisions regarding awarding credits, grades, use of pass/fail will be made at the district level.

District Employees Permitted in Building

Districts must adopt social distancing practices and other mitigation measures to protect district employees and contractors, including all of the following:

- Restricting the number of employees and contractors present in a district building to no more than is strictly necessary to perform the activities.
- Promoting remote work to the fullest extent possible.
- Keeping employees and contractors in a district building at least six feet from one another to the maximum extent possible.
- Increasing standards of district building cleaning and disinfection to limit employee and contractor exposure to COVID-19, as well as adopting protocols to clean and disinfect in the event of a positive COVID-19 case in a district building.
- Adopting policies to prevent employees and contractors from entering the premises if they display respiratory symptoms or have had contact with a person who is known or suspected to have contracted COVID-19.
- Any other social distancing practices and mitigation measures relating to COVID-19 recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



SUPERIOR CENTRAL SCHOOLS



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A district may permit parents and guardians of pupils to visit school property for the purpose of obtaining materials and equipment pursuant to a Plan and using the same social distancing and other mitigation measures required for district employees and contractors.

Assessments

All state required assessments have been suspended for the 2019-20 school year.

- Students currently in 11th Grade will take the SAT in the fall of the 2020-21 school year during a “school day” testing session as permitted by College Board.
- Advanced Placement (AP) Testing will be offered in an at home, online test, by the College Board.

Class of 2020 (Seniors)

A district shall implement a process to issue grades to pupils in grade 12, award credits needed for graduation, provide for completion of the Michigan Merit Curriculum, issue diplomas to pupils in grade 12, and reflect continued learning by pupils in grade 12 pursuant to this order. When implementing this section, a district may, without limitation, use one or more of the following options:

- Award credits and grades for courses taken based on coursework through March 11, 2020
- Provide an optional final exam or other culminating activity to test pupil understanding of the subject matter of a course to the extent practicable.
- Implement a process for pupils in grade 12 to be certified as eligible to graduate using a prior learning assessment, a portfolio, or a resume approach.
- Offer an interdisciplinary culminating activity that encompasses essential standards missed by pupils due to the closure of schools.

Districts must provide a pupil in grade 12 who was failing a course as of March 11, 2020 an opportunity to the extent feasible to demonstrate learning in the subject matter of the course and receive credit for the course, as determined by the district.

Special Education

Districts shall strive in good faith and to the extent practicable, based upon existing resources, technology, training, and curriculum, as well as the circumstances presented by any state of emergency or state of disaster, to provide equal access to alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Obviously, there is way more material in this seventeen-page Executive Order than I have covered. I just wanted to highlight some of the things I thought people might have questions on. We will begin working on the District “Plan” once we get the template from the Michigan Department of Education. appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Bill Valima
Superintendent/K-12 Principal