



4/23/2020

Dear West Valley School District Families,

After consulting with Flathead City-County Health Department officials, conferring with school superintendents across the Flathead Valley, and discussing with West Valley School District leaders, ***I will be recommending to the Board of Trustees that the safest option for the remainder of the school year will be to continue with remote learning.*** The board will meet on Tuesday, April 28 at 5:00 pm, via Google Meet, to take this matter under consideration.

Yesterday, the governor directed that each school district in Montana will have local control on whether to return to in-class learning in some form, although in order to accomplish this, stringent requirements to keep students and staff safe would need to be in place, such as wearing masks, maintaining social distancing in classrooms, limiting groups to no more than 10. Additionally, I am anticipating our local health department to make recommendations for even stricter limitations for Flathead County.

The requirements set by the governor and local health officials would make the logistics of any on-site instruction tremendously impractical and we believe there would be a significant risk of transmission of disease.

I know the hardships remote learning has created for our families. The health and safety of students, families, and staff is our highest priority. We will continue to communicate with you following the Board's decision early next week and as we work through more details. I will be sending out a video explaining this process on Friday, April 24 as well as plans for the remainder of the school year.

Take care and be well!

Cal

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