

WESTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT

1400 S. DEARING ROAD • PARMA, MICHIGAN 49269
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March 13, 2020

Dear Western Families and Community Members:

The situation involving coronavirus continues to evolve rapidly. On Thursday night, Governor Gretchen Whitmer directed the closure of all K-12 school buildings in the State of Michigan from Monday, March 16, through Sunday, April 5. As a result of Governor Whitmer's announcement, the Western School District will enact the following changes effective at 11:59 p.m. Friday, March 13.

- No classes of any kind will be held in our school buildings.
- No extracurricular events will be held.
- No athletic practices will be held.
- No students or community members will be allowed access to our buildings or our outside facilities.
- Little Panthers Daycare will be closed.

Some other issues of note:

- The Western food service department will make sack lunches available free of charge to anyone 18 years old or younger. Lunches will be available Monday through Friday at Warner and Parma elementary schools Monday, March 16 through at least March 27. (Lunch availability during spring break week is to be determined.)
- Throughout the three-week closure period, the district will be on academic pause. No required academic work will be sent home during this initial closure.
- All of the district's buildings will undergo a deep cleaning performed by the custodial staff during the closure period.
- As we announced earlier this week, all field trips scheduled through the end of spring break, including the high school band trip to New York, have been canceled.
- All communications to the community will be posted on the home page of the district website: www.wsdpanthers.org. Please refer to the website for updates as we move forward.

We will continue to monitor events as this situation progresses and make further adjustments if necessary, and we will continue to provide you with additional information on this issue and other issues as needed.

As a reminder, the advice we are receiving from the experts says the best ways to prevent the spread of coronavirus are the same as preventing the cold and flu. They include:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

The safety of our district's students and staff is our priority. Thank you again for your attention, your support, your patience and for partnering with us as we work together to get through this challenging time.

If you have additional concerns, please contact the Western Administration office at (517) 841-8171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Smajda".

Michael Smajda
Superintendent