



# WEST IRON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent

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West Iron County Families,

In the attempt to contain the spread of COVID-19, the State of Michigan has made the decision to close all K-12 school buildings initially from March 16<sup>th</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Governor Gretchen Whitmer made a formal announcement regarding this on March 12, 2020. West Iron County Schools has been preparing for this mandatory shut down. To keep families as informed as possible during these uncertain times, I would like to lay out our plans thus far.

1. All buildings will be closed off to staff from March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 17<sup>th</sup>. Only a limited amount of kitchen staff will be permitted in the building.
2. Due to the expectation of the State that lunch be made available to those in need, families will be given the opportunity to access school lunch. Beginning Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>, families can report to the Stambaugh Elementary School gym door from 11:30-12:30 to receive a takeaway lunch. A breakfast item will be included in this lunch. These lunches will be provided during the week of March 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> and again during the week of March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
3. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, custodial and support staff will return to work to begin the process of deep cleaning the buildings and buses. All classrooms will be completely cleaned. Buses will be cleaned as well.

We would like to encourage all families to continue to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by using good hygiene practices. These practices include;

- Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are sick and contact your healthcare provider
- Evaluate family travel plans based on public health officials' recommendations

The situation is changing rapidly, and we will do our best to keep you informed about changes as they come—know that we are always following the recommendations of the Michigan Department of Health. We know this is an inconvenience, but it is what the State of Michigan believes will mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Please stay healthy and well-informed during this time.

Sincerely,

Mr. Christopher Thomson  
Superintendent