

March 23, 2020

Dear Benzie Central Families:

As you have likely heard, the State of Michigan will under the new "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order from Governor Whitmer effective midnight tonight and lasting for the next 3 weeks. This extends our scheduled school closure period until at least April 13th.

First and foremost, please be aware that our meal delivery service will continue during this time period, including during our regularly scheduled spring break. Given the circumstances, ensuring our students continue to have regular meals is our highest priority. Again – thanks to our drivers, paraprofessionals, food service staff, and the many staff and community volunteers pulling together to keep this rolling.

We also intend to continue providing learning resources to our families. If you have not had the chance, I would encourage you to visit our website – www.benzieschools.net We have reconfigured our homepage and have learning resources at the top of the page for you to check out.

Also on our website – we have links to resources on the COVID-19 situation with an FAQ document and links to past communications for you to reference. This has been a fast-moving situation and we will continue to update this as new communications come out.

District offices, including our Central Business Office, will be closed through April 13th in accordance with the Governor's order. However, be assured that during that time period, we will continue to ensure continuity of operations. Myself and my operations and administrative staff will continue to work remotely. In addition, we are tasking custodial and maintenance staff to ensure our buildings are continuing to be maintained and operational. Our food service areas will continue to be regularly cleaned and disinfected to ensure those critical operations may continue safely.

We will continue to update you as things continue to change and evolve. In the meantime, we wish you all the best as we adjust to these changes. We will get through this together!

Be safe and be well,

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Matthew Olson Superintendent