

LICKING HEIGHTS LOCAL SCHOOLS

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March 20, 2020

Dear Families:

Like many I follow the daily updates from Governor DeWine and as of today (Friday) there is no additional guidance for Ohio's schools. However, as we watch the spread of the Coronavirus, I am less and less convinced schools will be permitted to resume as of Monday, April 6.

Therefore, as a school district we are preparing for two potential outcomes: (1.) What if schools are closed through the end of April? or (2.) What if schools are closed through the remainder of this school year?

In either of the outcomes above, we are preparing for the next phase of learning within a longer potential time frame. Part of these preparations are focused on enhancing our distance learning capabilities. Therefore, we are asking our teachers to help determine students who either do not have adequate technology devices and/or connectivity to the internet. If you have not yet been in contact with your child's teacher or teachers about this matter, please reach out to them and provide the requested technological information.

If schools are not reopened as of April 6, presently there are more questions than answers and I will provide updates as they become available. For example, we expect state testing for all Ohio students will be cancelled this year, but the implications are not fully understood; especially from the legislature regarding student promotion to the next grade level. Similarly, I feel terrible for our 12th grade students, who are looking forward to graduation. Again, more details will be provided once schools receive more direction from the state.

In addition, the following are two important updates regarding spring break as well as continued delivery of meals for students:

- **Spring Break.** As a reminder, this week is officially spring break for Licking Heights Local Schools. While everyone's plans likely look very different than they did a few months ago, I hope you find time to share with your family.
- **Meals for Students.** Thank you for your support as we provide drive-through supplemental meals to students in need. Our continued meal pick-up schedule is at ***Central Middle School***. Also, the following is subjected to change based upon local/state health mandates:
 - Tues., March 24, 4 – 6 p.m. (2 days of meals)
 - Thurs. March 26, 4 – 6 p.m. (4 days of meals)
 - Tues., March 31 ***Times to be determined*** – watch for updates (2 days of meals)
 - Thurs. April 2, 4 – 6 p.m. (4 days of meals)

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not highlight all the truly heroic efforts that are occurring in our community. In addition to preparing and delivering meals for students, our staff and parents have been sharing their reflections from this week. While all of us are focused on this public

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health crisis, it is heartwarming that so many are helping one another with daily life activities, as well as, educational programs.

I know others have shared “we will get through this” and I believe this is true. In the meantime we continue to manage the best we can. All my best to you and your families to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Philip Wagner, Ph.D.
Superintendent