

March 13, 2020

Hello Pioneers,

Late last evening Governor Whitmer issued an order to close Michigan Schools beginning Monday, March 16th through April 5th. It is our intent, AT THIS TIME, to reopen on Monday, April 6th...but that depends on the direction of the Governor and health department officials. We will continue to comply with Governor Whitmer's orders and guidance from health officials.

Our high school students returning from Denmark will touch down in Detroit this afternoon. Thank you to Matt Forsberg, everyone on the trip, and parents & community members who have stayed calm and let us work the problem of getting them home. They will be quarantined according to CDC guidelines, but show no signs of illness and we'll continue to hope for their good health.

There are many things up in the air now which I don't have answers for, including:

- Spring Sports and activities
- Assessments, class schedules, and graduation ceremonies
- Will these days be "forgiven" or need to be made up

And Other things I'm not yet thinking of...

As we have answers to these questions, we'll communicate them to you via all-call, Facebook, and the CPS website (www.clare.k12.mi.us). Please do not call the school today unless it's an emergency, as you are getting all the information we currently have.

Again, I ask that you get your school news directly from us. For your "news" and health news...be careful what you read on social media and be discerning. Your kids, our community, will thank you for being discerning and calm in this time. You and your attitudes are what sets this community apart as special.

I imagine the cancellations do cause some anxiety in many of you. But I think today and the weeks ahead are an opportunity to work together...to sacrifice a little to give our nurses, doctors, and hospitals a fighting chance. Let's start from there and figure it out together.

Conversations aren't canceled. Relationships aren't canceled. Reading isn't canceled. Great movies like Lego Batman, Predator and The Great Outdoors aren't canceled. Getting outside for a hike, run, or bike ride isn't canceled. A healthy sense of humor surely isn't canceled. Bacon and ice cream can never be canceled! Lean into the good stuff this weekend. Thanks for making Clare a great place to live and learn.

Jim