Dear Parents,

This morning, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order No. 2020-35. This Executive Order (EO) suspended in-person instruction for the remainder of the school year. Considering the severity of the health crisis our country faces, this action was not surprising. As I considered the remainder of the year, I could not envision that circumstances would improve enough for school to resume.

Regardless, from a personal standpoint, this news is upsetting. I have spent my adult life as a public school educator. I fully understand the important role school plays in the life of our students and their families. This time of year is extremely important in a school. For our students, it is time of academic growth, it is a time of completion of a specific level or course, and it is a time of celebration. Not only is important face-to-face instruction lost, but many traditions have also been placed on hold. Think about our seniors. After 13 years in a K-12 setting, those events which symbolize this milestone have been postponed. Please know that we will do everything possible to honor these students. Much will depend on the timeline related to the success in stopping the spread of the virus.

The Executive Order issued today does not end school. It just changes how instruction will be delivered. The EO provides us with many conditions that must be met as we plan for the rest of this “remote” school year. Currently, we are studying the document in order to fully understand it. Based on our analysis, plans will be made for the remainder of the school year. On Monday, April 13th, your child will receive lessons from their teachers as they have for the past two weeks. Beyond that, based on the EO, instruction may be modified. To help us plan, it is very important that you take our tech survey. It can be found on our Covid-19 link on our website, or you can call (586) 723-2009.

I applaud our Governor, who since the onset of this health crisis, has expressed much understanding of the hardship this situation places on both our families and our students. This is reflected in the EO. Seniors who are scheduled to graduate on time will do so, and other students will move on to the next grade level. As educators, we will provide your children with the best “remote” education possible for the remainder of this school year. Going forward, if gaps exist in your child’s education, it will be our commitment to fill them.

I look forward to our classrooms, hallways, and lunchrooms being filled with the sounds of our students. I look forward to athletic contests, academic competitions, evening meetings, and Board meetings held with everyone in the same room. I look forward to being with you.

As difficult as this current health crisis is, if one looks around, stories of the goodness of people are everywhere. This will change us but for the better.

Sincerely,

Ron Roberts
Superintendent