



WEST BLOOMFIELD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**GERALD D. HILL, PH.D.**  
SUPERINTENDENT

**March 11, 2020**

Dear West Bloomfield families,

Last night, Governor Whitmer announced the first confirmed cases of COVID-19. One of those cases is in Oakland County. While we wait for further information from the county and state levels, our district's Learning Design and Crisis Response teams met today to discuss our district's response to this recent revelation.

We are in close communication with the Oakland County Health Division (OCHD), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and Oakland Schools. We will continue to follow their guidance and recommendations regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. At this time, COVID-19 is a fluid situation and risk could change.

In order to ensure we can adequately prepare for the unknown surrounding COVID-19, we are going to be **closing school on Friday, March 13** to students for a **Contingency Planning Day for Cloud Learning**. Staff members will be reporting on March 13 to work on the district's remote learning instruction plan in the event we have to close schools for a prolonged period of time. Students and staff will return to normal school day procedures on **Monday, March 16**.

The district's remote learning instruction plan includes the continued use of Google Classroom. A vast majority of our students and staff are already utilizing this tool. We are confident that our students will still receive the same high-quality education they receive each day by using this instructional aide. Friday's training will help staff and administrators work through the rollout of this plan in the event of a prolonged school closing.

We will also be discussing the challenges surrounding closing schools for a prolonged period of time including students with limited access to the internet and students in need of our food service program.

We will be providing childcare to all families currently enrolled in Kids Klub on March 13. Kids Klub will only be provided at **two locations**, Sheiko Elementary and Scotch Elementary, from 6:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please contact Collette Goesten Kors at (248) 865-6468 or [collette.goestenkors@wbsd.org](mailto:collette.goestenkors@wbsd.org) to register. Families must register for this day.

We have the following updates at this time:

- All assemblies and performances (scheduled between now and spring break) involving participation by the general public are canceled.
- Academic competitions will continue under the guidance of the organizations hosting these events.
- Athletic competitions will continue as scheduled under the guidance of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA).
- School tours are being postponed and rescheduled for after spring break (March 30-April 3).
- All community meetings, rentals, and gatherings scheduled to take place within our school facilities between now and spring break are canceled between now and spring break. This includes scheduled PTO events or meetings, community education classes and events, and all facility rentals between now and spring break (March 30-April 3).



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We are deeply committed to the health and safety of our students and staff. Our schools are taking extra precautions in disinfecting our buildings. Our maintenance and operations staff are taking extra care in cleaning surfaces, such as desktops and doorknobs. Our restrooms are cleaned daily in all buildings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Oakland County Nurse on Call at 1-800-848-5533, from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. Additional information can be found on the district website at [www.wbsd.org/covid-19](http://www.wbsd.org/covid-19).

Again, we will be **CLOSED on March 13** to students for a district-wide **Contingency Planning Day for Cloud Learning**. Students and staff will return to normal school day procedures on **Monday, March 16**.

We truly appreciate your understanding, patience, and partnership as we make decisions on what is best for our students, families, and staff.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gerald Hill  
WBSD Superintendent