



# EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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April 13, 2020

Dear Seniors,

I hope you are well. I am writing to express my sincerest regret for what has happened during the last few months, impacting not only your senior year, but the culmination of your 13-year experience as a learner. I am truly sorry that so much has been taken away from you. Regardless of how many friends you have, how much you are engaged in school life or not, and how successful you are in the classroom or not, the last few months of High School are special and memorable for nearly all seniors...*in a normal year*. I know that I can still remember specific events and interactions from my senior year 35 years ago and still cherish them. I only share this to acknowledge the loss that you (and your parents) are feeling. You have been denied these moments. My heart truly goes out to you. It is understandable to view it as: "unfair".

I am also writing to tell you that the whole ELANCO team is working on ideas to provide alternatives for some of those senior year signature events such as the prom... and certainly graduation! You have earned them, and you deserve them. They won't look normal, but we will find ways to celebrate with you. Dr. Sanger and I have been having those conversations and hope to share ideas with all of you soon. So please stay tuned...

Finally, while these moments are hard for many right now, they will soon enough fade in the rearview mirror and will become but just a thread in the fabric of our story; *your* story. You decide how that thread ultimately influences your fabric. I wish you the very best now and in the future.

Go Spartans!

Stay well.

Most Sincerely,

Robert M. Hollister, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools