



## EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 13, 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am writing to update you on the District's most current plans to address the coronavirus pandemic (Covid-19). As of March 11th, the District cancelled all professional development conferences for teachers, administrators, and support staff employees at least through the Easter Break, April 13, 2020. Additionally, all District field trips that have our learners traveling beyond the District's borders are also suspended and/or cancelled at least through the Easter Break. Internal District events, such as, assemblies, concerts, and PTO gatherings are still being held, but are subject to cancellation on short notice.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. We, the District officials, are doing our best to balance our response with the many needs and variables associated with these decisions. We continue to receive regular updates from our professional organizations, colleagues, the CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health and Pennsylvania Department of Education. We are receiving nearly "real-time" updates on Covid-19 related events as they occur throughout the Commonwealth.

In addition to the above-mentioned measures, the District has increased its cleaning protocols even further. Starting next week, once we have materials "in-hand", the teaching staff will be spraying down classrooms with a disinfectant at the end of every day. This is in addition to the cleaning protocols that were ramped-up by our cleaning professionals two months ago during both day and night shifts.

There is growing speculation about school closures as school districts and colleges/universities have begun taking that step across the Commonwealth. Yesterday, the Governor mandated the closure of all schools in Montgomery County, PA. Here, we are preparing for such a scenario should it become necessary or mandated. An online digital learning experience may be possible, but we have significant challenges to make that work well for all learners. Nevertheless, we are exploring that possibility with the hope that it will not be needed. Please stay tuned for further communications from the School District. We will utilize the District website to post any communications that we publish.

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Equal Opportunity Employer

We ask that you continue following the protocols that are established regarding your own child or children. If they have a fever of 100 degrees or more, please keep them home for at least 24 hours after that fever has broken. Encourage your children to continuously wash hands and report to you or to school officials if they are not feeling well.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Hollister". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent.

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

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