

Standish-Sterling Community Schools

3789 Wyatt Road
Standish, Michigan 48658

Standish-Sterling Central Jr/Sr High School
Standish-Sterling Central Elementary
Sterling Elementary

Learning For All

March 12, 2020

Re: COVID-19

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have been paying very close attention to what is going on around the state and nationally. Governor Whitmer declared a state of emergency for our state and urges schools to use their best judgement about what steps are most appropriate to keep people safe and to slow the spread of the disease. Local, state, and federal agencies are coordinating to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Schools across the state of Michigan are part of that effort and have been asked to work with their county health departments should specific actions need to take place. We receive regular updates from the CDC, MDE, and Central Michigan District Health Department. The recommendations we are getting are to follow preventative methods at this time.

As part of the Standish-Sterling plan of action, the school buildings and buses were spray-disinfected between March 6 and March 12. This process will be repeated on a regular basis in addition to regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. Staff and students are being reminded to wash hands regularly.

To avoid unnecessary exposure of our staff and students to illness, we are following the recommendation of the CDC and canceling all non-essential gatherings until further notice. Examples include, but are not limited to the following:

- All school field trips are suspended until further notice.
- All assemblies, concerts, and performances in our schools are suspended until further notice.
- Dances, pep rallies, and class trips are suspended until further notice.
- All community meetings, rentals, and gatherings scheduled to take place within our school facilities are suspended until further notice.
- Elementary and Middle School Athletics are suspended until further notice.
- All High School athletic contests will continue in accordance with guidance issued by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). Updates are available on their website at <https://www.mhsaa.com/>.
- Attendance based awards and incentives are being suspended effective immediately in order to follow Governor Whitmer's guidelines to not encourage students to come to school sick.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. Especially now that there are cases in Michigan. As we prepare for all possible scenarios, we are asking that you develop a plan for your family in the event schools were to close for an extended period of time.

We will continue to share with you as more information becomes available and as decisions are made on future school events. Thank you for your continued support of our students and school district as we continue to make safety our number one priority.

Educationally yours,



Darren S. Kroczaleski
Superintendent

For the latest information, see michigan.gov/coronavirus or cdc.gov/coronavirus/