



DOLLARBAY.K12.MI.US
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March 24, 2020

Dear DB-TC Students, Parents, Staff, and Community,

As all Michigan residents no doubt know, the governor has issued an executive [stay-at-home order](#) which is far-reaching in its impact, designed to slow the spread of Coronavirus. This means that the mandatory school closure now extends through April 13 (the Monday after Easter). If no additional time is added to the school closure, we will return to school on Tuesday, April 14.

Following the governor's order, school will not be staffed during this time, except as absolutely necessary to ensure building operations and food service are not negatively affected.

FOOD SERVICE CONTINUES

- Food *will* be provided through the fourth week of school closure to those signed up.
- Many thanks to "Ms. Judy" for hard work, creativity, and efficiency, ensuring our students are staying fed!
- And thanks to the volunteers from the local Baptist church, who helped pack food and milk for the first food distribution. It's wonderful to see good people rising up to help!

STANDARDIZED TESTING UPDATE

- "We are pleased that the U.S. Department of Education heard our call to waive the federal requirement for statewide student testing," said Dr. Michael Rice, State Superintendent. "We now need the Michigan legislature to amend state law that requires statewide testing and accountability."
- Legislators are expected to vote to amend the law so that Michigan K-12 students will not be required to take standardized tests this year.

SENIORS AND GRADUATION

- High school seniors and their families may be concerned about graduating on time, in light of the extended school closure. Please know that we hear your concern and consider this a top priority.
- Dollar Bay seniors are actually in a great position, most having already met the Michigan Merit Curriculum graduation requirements. Many have also already earned DB's minimum number of credits. It is generally expected that school boards, both local and across the state (and country, actually) may be called upon to modify district graduation requirements where needed, or allow for creative solutions in satisfying these requirements. Again, DB's seniors are already in a very strong position, and should not be worried.

Just today, Marquette General Hospital confirmed its first case of COVID-19--the second in the U.P. As Coronavirus comes closer to home, please follow Governor Whitmer's order--practice social distancing, stay home as much as possible, and do whatever you can to keep yourself and your family safe and healthy. And I encourage you to use these days to treasure family, read together, spend time outdoors, and engage in all the good things that *can* continue to happen during these trying times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina J. Norland". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Christina" being more prominent than the last name "Norland".

Mrs. Christina J. Norland
Superintendent