

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

Dear Cavalier Community,

Here is today's updated information.

- **Bridge article** Last night *Bridge Magazine* reported that [Governor Whitmer plans to end Michigan school year. Michigan Department of Education \(MDE\), nor Governor Whitmer's office has verified the report.](#) In fact, Whitmer's communication director Nick Pohl said on Twitter last night it was, "Really sloppy reporting by *Bridge*. Lots of inaccuracies. No final decisions have been made. Irresponsible to publish anonymous gossip like this during a crisis."

So, because there is no official executive order from the Governor, we are speculating like everyone else. Behind the scenes, we are continuing to prepare our school district for this potentiality and will work diligently to ensure we are meeting our students' needs under the state guidelines **when/as** they are released.

Here's what I know **FOR SURE** at this time (8:46 a.m., Tuesday, March 31, 2020:

- All buildings are closed to everyone except essential staff until April 14.
- We will continue to serve food during the closing.

As we learn more, rest assured that information will be passed on to you.

- **Stepping up** Andy Hudson, our middle school technology teacher, is beginning the process of using our 3D printers to make face shields for our food service workers and for health professionals in our area. Kyle Sprague/Jared Andres are looking into ways we can use our 3D printers at the high school in a similar manner. Robotics coach Scott Stap is doing the same. More reasons why it's GREAT to be GOLD!
- **Michigan Launches COVID-19 Volunteer Website** Gov. Whitmer and MDHHS over the weekend launched [a new volunteer website](#) where trained medical professionals can register to assist in hospitals, and other state residents can find out how they can help in their communities. Other assistance could involve giving blood, donating money or medical supplies, or assisting public health officials in tracking infections. *"We've seen an incredible amount of strength and courage of Michiganders during this time of uncertainty, whether it's from communities donating food, money, and resources to those that need it or from businesses using their technology to manufacture personal protective equipment," said Gov. Whitmer. "To bend the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19 in our state, we must all work together as Michiganders. Whether you're a medical professional looking to volunteer, or someone who can give blood or donate to your local food bank, everyone can help out. We will get through this together."* This website will serve as a single clearinghouse for Michiganders to join the fight against COVID-19. The state will work with hospitals and health systems that are short-staffed to fill gaps if and when necessary.
- **Subscribe to the Daily Detroit PBS Kids Newsletter** Check out the daily [Detroit PBS Kids newsletter](#) for educational resources for students at all grade levels and parents. The newsletter has been a result of daily conversations with key stakeholders and several other partners to ensure its relevance and usefulness. Past issues of the newsletter, video messaging, and subscription sign up are available at [DPTV.org](#), which also includes an option to translate the content into a number of different languages. This is a great option for educational resources if families do not have a reliable internet connection.
- **Going Phishing?** Although these events bring out the best in our society like the example above where we are producing face masks for those in need, others are trying to take advantage of the fear and uncertainty many people have. The following article [Coronavirus Phishing Attacks up 667% Since February, Research Finds](#) tells us that Phishing schemes related to the novel coronavirus began appearing in January, but the technology industry has seen the number of attacks grow from 1,188 in February, to 9,116 in March, a 667% increase, according to research from Barracuda Networks. There have also been many reports where emails are asking people to input critical information like social security numbers, bank routing numbers, etc. for the deposit of the stimulus

checks. Please take a moment to read the above article and the following link on [How to Recognize and Avoid Phishing Scams | FTC](#)

- **COVID cases in Shiawassee County** As of 2 p.m., March 30, (*information is updated at 2 p.m. daily*), there are **eight (8) known cases** of COVID-19 in the county. If you are aware of someone who is showing symptoms, you are to reach out to the Shiawassee County Health Department (989) 743-2460 and they will investigate. The following [Coronavirus site](#) provides the most up-to-date information (*updated daily at 2 p.m.*). Finally, here's a link on [what to do if you're sick?](#)
- **Coloring contests** Looking for something for your kids (or you??? 😊) to do? Consider the following annual coloring contest sponsored by the Argus-Press: [17 Argus coloring contest.pdf](#) [17 Argus Easter Bunny.pdf](#)
- **Parent information** Here is a link to information to recent communication I have sent out:
 - [17 Parent communication letter 3.30.2020](#)
 - [16 Parent communication letter 3.27.2020](#)

Again, thank you for your understanding and patience during this unprecedented time!

Sincerely,
Superintendent John Fattal