

School Closure Update

As we navigate through this unprecedented time let me take a moment to let you know that no matter the grade level(s) of your child(ren) we will do our best moving forward to get through the school part of this together. This situation has gotten worse than I could have ever imagined and I can only hope this e mail finds you healthy and safe. I know by the amount of e mails I have seen and zoom meetings I have sat in on that our teachers miss all of your children very much and just like you we want what is best for all of them.

Please read through the list of items below so you know what the next steps are in all of this:

1. With next week being our original spring break and the governor's decision to close schools today next week is going to be a true spring break. There will not be any new on line assignments given by the teachers or packets sent in the mail. There will be few ,if any, Zoom meetings(on line meetings that many of the teachers have scheduled with their students) scheduled as well.
2. While the Governor did close all Michigan schools today for the remainder of the year there was not any real guidance given to schools . We will be working as hard as we can to lay out a plan that makes sense for ALL of our students. That is why next week being a "down period" is essential for us to be able to come up with a plan and get guidance from the state, TRG, and SVSU. We will work collaboratively to meet these new remote learning standards and provide students assignments and activities to progress academically. I look forward to sharing our plan with parents as soon as our work is complete.
3. Our plan is to get instructions out to all of you of how we are going to give your child(ren) the best education for the remainder of the year by the middle of next week so we can hit the ground running with the plan starting on Monday, April 13th.
4. In the meantime, please watch for a technology survey that is going to be sent to all of you very soon. Please, please take the time to fill out this survey so we have this information to make the best possible decisions.
5. Once the state lifts the stay at home order we will develop a schedule for students to come up to school to get their personal items.

I realize today's announcement may be particularly difficult for students and parents in the Class of 2020. Please know that we are working to address the many questions and concerns that are specific to this unique time of year. I truly understand how important and special this last year is for our students and Merritt Academy families, and I want to be sure we do everything possible to properly honor and celebrate our graduating seniors.

Please plan on checking e mail and Facebook moving forward so all of you know the plan next week when it's announced. In the meantime, I hope you stay healthy and safe. We miss seeing our students and families.