

Re: COVID-19 Update #6 \*School Closure Period Extended

Fr: J. Hoover, Superintendent

Dear Laker Family:

In an attempt to balance helpful information for you without inundating you with communications from this office that get lost in the shuffle, I share this information with you:

- Updates from the State of Michigan & Executive Orders

Stay Home Executive Order - Today Governor Whitmer issued a Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive order that takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on March 24. The order for Michigan residents to stay home is scheduled to remain in place for three weeks. It permits trips to obtain household products such as groceries, medicines, medical services and more.

- Extended School Closure - Governor Whitmer extended the closure of all Michigan K-12 school buildings through April 13, 2020. Directives from the Governor will be followed regarding the status of schools reopening. In accordance with our school calendar, spring break will still be observed.
- You will be receiving a separate communication from John Fields, our Food Service Director, tonight regarding our food delivery plan moving forward in response to the Governor's Executive Order.
- Standardized Tests - U.S. Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos announced on March 20 that Michigan students will not be required to take the M-STEP or other state assessments and standardized tests. M-STEP tests were scheduled to begin the week of April 13 and go through May 28. DeVos said in a statement, "Neither students nor teachers need to be focused on high-stakes tests during this difficult time. Students are simply unlikely to be able to perform their best in this environment."

The following is contact information for local agencies provided for you by Amy Johnson-Velis, one of our counselors. These wonderful organizations are prepared and wanting to assist all who stand in need:

- Leelanau Christian Neighbors - 231 994-2771
- Leelanau County Family Coordinating Council - 231 649-8334
- Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN) 231 - 882-9544
- Father Fred Foundation - 231 - 947-2055
- Leelanau Help Link/ Food Pantry (housed in the Glen Lake Community Reformed Church) 231-334-4563
- Empire Area Emergency Fund - this requires that a person other than the person in need of assistance use this nominating form and submit to EAEF. <https://www.empireareacommunitycenter.org/emergency-fund/nominations>

Our staff stands ready to help anyway we can. Just ask.