March 31, 2020

Dear Comstock Park Families,

I am writing to you today with a heavy heart informing you of some sad and unfortunate news. It is expected that tomorrow Governor Whitmer will issue an Executive Order prohibiting schools from reopening for regular classes through the end of the academic year. I’m writing in advance of the order to help prepare you and your children. It’s going to be difficult for many of them.

This executive order will likely address the number of missed school days that will be forgiven along with expectations regarding distance (remote) learning for the remainder of the school year. We do not anticipate this order will extend the school year beyond our planned end day of June 4. Our teachers and administrators are working diligently on plans to support new learning for all of our students for the remaining weeks of the school year. This is all unchartered territory for us all.

The academic resources we provide will vary according to the grade level of your children. Our plans will not be finalized until after we review the parameters and guidelines we’ve been told will be contained within the governor’s executive order. My expectation is we will start this new learning after April 14. We also fully recognize the resources available at home to students varies greatly. There are many families within the district with limited or no Internet access and we will provide educational opportunities to meet all needs.

I am very aware that our CP seniors and their families are especially concerned about their graduation status. I plan to recommend all our seniors who are in good standing and on track to graduate will receive their hard-earned diplomas this school year as they complete their last weeks of school as CP students. This is an especially difficult time for the Class of 2020 who are missing out on so many milestones and celebrations.

I want to emphasize how important it is to monitor the emotional and social wellbeing of your children. Our amazing teachers will continue to make it a priority to make personal connections with their students through various platforms. We highly recommended you create an environment where learning, although challenging, can be a rewarding experience for your children and the entire family.

We have made no decisions with respect to major school-related year-end events. Commencement, culminating activities, and year-end celebrations are all events that likely will not be addressed in the Executive Order. These are decisions that do not need to be made now and we hope our collective efforts and sacrifices to slow the spread of this virus will pay dividends in the weeks to come.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we strive to partner with you in educating your children during these difficult times. Be patient with your children as they adapt to all these changes. We will all work together during this time to keep everyone safe and find ways to support each other. I will continue to send you updates as we navigate the coming weeks.

We miss our CP students very much and hope we can all be together again soon.

Sincerely,

David Washburn
Superintendent