



School District of the City of Iron Mountain

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Good Afternoon,

This is a short update from Iron Mountain Public Schools regarding our current status both locally and across the state regarding the state of public education. I am in constant communication one way or another with State Officials, the State Superintendent, and area Superintendents. Information is still changing almost hourly. As you are well aware the Governor has ordered schools to be shut down until April 12, 2020. Currently, we are still under this latest order. However, there are news reports out that our State is considering closing schools for the year. This is not "official" information at this time. Some state representatives have made this comment earlier today and noted in a comment that it is "unlikely" we will return to school. Please understand this is not reliable information at this point.

If and when we receive a formal directive, I will broadcast it as soon as possible. Right now, we are planning on being back in session when the current order ends on April 12, 2020. Next week I will be meeting with district administrators and teacher leaders to continue our work researching and developing plans on how to educate our children in the event the Governor extends the closure or makes the decision to permanently close school for the year. We are looking at some virtual learning as well as blended learning options, and how we can deliver these options to our parents understanding there is not a "one size fits all" method. Please know we are working to ensure that whatever we do, it will be accessible to 100% of our students and that we will be able to support 100% of our students with special needs.

Also, it is important to know that these are very trying times for all of us. As you know, education is best delivered in a face-to-face learning environment. Our staff is currently working hard to try and figure out how we can execute our strategies so they are effective and equitable to all our students.

I am confident in our staff and very impressed with the Iron Mountain community and their willingness to help and provide support. We will get through the challenges that are ahead during these very unusual times. As always, if you have questions please do not hesitate to email either myself or a district administrator.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Jerry Sardina
Superintendent