



School District of the City of Iron Mountain

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Good Afternoon Iron Mountain Families,

Before I get to a short update on the status of our district, I would like to first send best wishes to our school community and community at large. We are all adapting to this new normal in our lives and have all experienced just how quickly our lives can change, not just in regards to educating our children, but in the many other roles we assume such as a parent, spouse, colleague, friend, and/or employee. My hope is that each of you are finding new routines, are staying connected with family and friends, and finding ways to take care of your physical and emotional health.

As you know by now, on April 2, Governor Whitmer announced that schools will be closed for the remainder of the school year and face-to-face instruction has been suspended as long as the COVID-19 restrictions are in place. Since then, on April 3rd the district has received a Continuity of Learning Plan template, which will provide support and guidance to the district. IMPS is currently actively engaged in writing this plan and determining what the next steps for continued learning will be for the remainder of the year. The development of the learning plan will include decisions on grades, participation, accountability, and other educational services. Once completed, our plan will be sent to the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District for approval. As soon as our plan is finalized and approved, we will share it with our parents and community.

As of the time of this writing, IMPS is looking to begin our continued learning on Tuesday, April 14th. Parents please communicate with your students and help ensure they are checking email, checking teacher websites, staying in contact with classmates, and are ready to continue learning through the end of the school year. Many of you may have been contacted by your teachers already in preparation for next Tuesday, but if you have not been, please be looking for communication from your teachers.

Parents, if you are in need of a school device please visit our district web page and fill out the [Iron Mountain Public Schools Home Internet and Device Needs Survey](#) on the COVID-19 page. Additionally, some of the local internet options available are listed on our website, including links to [internet services for qualifying low income families](#). For those needing devices, and please limit to one device per student, you will be contacted as to when and how we will distribute these devices to you in the coming days. As a reminder, our 5th grade through 12th grade students have the 1:1 Chromebook program.

We understand the trying times we are in. IMPS will work with our families during this time and want you to know we are here to support you and do what is best for our children. If you have any questions please email them to ironmtnhelp@imschools.org and we will get to your questions and answer them as quickly as possible. Also, we will be creating a FAQ section on our district website under the "COVID-19" page that addresses your questions.

Lastly, I would like to thank our staff and our families for the support during this time. Since the State's school closure on Monday, March 16, 2020, we have had numerous individuals, families, and businesses reach out and lend support to our district. I particularly would like to thank all of those who have been involved with getting meals out to our families through the scheduled meal distribution days. Our food service workers have not skipped a beat during this time and continue to provide for those in need. We appreciate everything that everyone is doing, not only in support of our schools, but in support of our community.

Thank you, again, for your continued support of Iron Mountain Public Schools.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Jerry Sardina
Superintendent