Marcellus Community Schools

305 W. Arbor - P O Box 48 Marcellus, Michigan 49067



December 8, 2020

Dear Wildcat Families,

Yesterday, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced the emergency epidemic order that prohibits in-person instruction for grades 9-12 has been **extended by twelve days- through December 20.** The order also suspends extracurricular activities, including athletic practices and competitions at all grade levels. The MDHHS order does not impact in-person learning for grades DK-8. Students in grades DK-8 will continue in their current in-person or hybrid schedules up until Christmas break.

However, in order to mitigate further spread after potential Christmas and New Year holiday gatherings, Marcellus Community Schools will suspend in-person learning for ALL students (grades DK-12) from January 4 through January 11. During that time, all students will learn remotely. Much like the "pause" of in-person instruction that followed the Thanksgiving break, this "pause" will potentially minimize the spread of the virus and necessary quarantines once students do return. From a practical standpoint, this pause will increase the chances that the district can staff classrooms and remain open longer term.

While we believe in-person learning offers the best experience for our students and understand the difficulties school closures have on our school community, health and safety are the first priority. I assure you that decisions about in-person learning, virtual learning and safety protocols are not made lightly. If your child is struggling or needs additional assistance, please reach out to the building principal and know that the district will provide as much support to students and families as possible. Throughout the school building closure, free meals will still be available through Grab and Go distribution, from 2:00- 2:30p.m. on the following dates:

Friday Dec 11th Friday Dec 18th Tuesday Dec 22nd Tuesday Dec 29th Tuesday Jan 5th Friday Jan 8th *Meals will include breakfast, lunch, snack, and supper. Questions about food service may be directed to Director Kyle Dumkow at 646-5081 or email foodservice@marcelluscs.org. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 646-7655 or <u>npauley@marcelluscs.org</u> with any questions or concerns. Specific questions about students' remote schedules and special education supports can be directed to the applicable building staff. Questions or concerns about internet or device access should be directed to the central office at 646-7655. Thank you for your understanding and support throughout these challenging times.

Sincerely,

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Nanette Pauley

Please note that these dates are subject to change dependent upon additional emergency orders and local COVID-19 conditions.

Grades 9-12	Virtual Instruction Current- January 11	Return for Hybrid (in-person) on January 12
Grades 6-8	Virtual instruction January 4- January 11	-Return to optional Learning Lab on January 12 -Return for hybrid (in-person) on January 13
Grade DK-5	Virtual instruction January 4- January 11	Return to in-person learning on January 12

*Christmas Break is still scheduled for December 21 through January 1. Virtual classes resume on January 4.