



WEST OTTAWA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

1138 136th Ave.
Holland, MI 49424

(616) 786-2050
www.westottawa.net

April 2, 2020

Dear West Ottawa Families:

As you are likely aware, Governor Whitmer has announced that schools will be closed through the remainder of the year. A plan for the next steps that districts can follow is expected to be provided by the Michigan Department of Education in the near future. In the meantime, West Ottawa Public Schools has been working proactively around the clock in anticipation of the Governor's decision and has a great plan for our school community that we are eager to share with the public as soon as possible.

Despite the challenges we face, West Ottawa Public Schools knows education must continue. To that end, all students – and we mean all – will be provided with meaningful academic work that will allow students to continue on their path of learning. Building administrators and teachers will be communicating the next steps for student learning and other relevant information in the coming days. We have learned from the Governor's order that state testing, including M-STEP and SATs, will be canceled, though students will be given the opportunity to take the SAT and PSAT in the fall. Seniors in high school will be able to graduate.

Additionally, we would like to express our deep gratitude to all of our staff and volunteers for the multiple hours you have spent packing and distributing meals to our WO community through our mobile food delivery program during this time of great need. Thank you for quickly stepping in at a crucial time to support families in our district. To date, we have served over 45,000 meals to our families in just these first three weeks! In a proactive effort to protect the health and safety of all, starting on Friday, April 3, we will no longer need the support of volunteers. WO food service and transportation will be fully taking over operations from this point forward.

As always, we appreciate the continued support of the West Ottawa community, and we will provide updates as they become available. We are in uncharted territory and ask for your patience as we work to provide the very best instructional supports to our students. Thank you for your commitment to our children, our school district and our community.

My best,

Tom Martin