
Port Edwards Public Schools

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April 16, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Today, Governor Evers extended the “Safer at Home” Order until May, 26, 2020 and has ordered all public and private schools closed through the remainder of the school year. Schools are still permitted to continue to provide off-site educational opportunities and virtual learning. The Port Edwards School District remains committed to continuing to provide these opportunities and supports to students. Further, our food service will continue to provide meals at least through the end of the normally scheduled school year.

There are many unanswered questions and over the next several days, as more information becomes available as to the intent and extent of this latest order from the Governor, we will work to answer these questions. Here are several key pieces of information that we will work to answer as quickly and as best as we can in the next few weeks:

- *Cleaning lockers, retrieving items left in school and returning items to school:* we will work to have a plan for this laid out for students and families, but this may not be able to happen until after May 26.
- *Graduation Ceremony:* while we have not been told at this point that we cannot hold the ceremony as scheduled on May 31st, that ultimately may not be possible and we will work to set alternate plans with the Senior Class if that is not able to happen.
- *Summer School:* we will look at the feasibility of when it will be best to hold summer school sessions. It may not be possible to hold those sessions until July or August and we will communicate that information when we know more.
- *Other events such as Prom:* we will work with the classes and groups that have planned so many great events to see if we can hold these events on alternate dates at some point in the summer.
- *Athletics:* while official word has not come from the WIAA on the spring seasons, it is evident that these will likely not happen, but if there is a possibility at some point for the teams to gather, we will help make that happen.

I am deeply saddened that we are not able to bring students back to school soon, I was looking forward to greeting the students once again at the front door. This situation has added stress to all and extreme hardship on many of our families and community members. The District and our schools are here to provide support and assistance where we are able to—please reach out to your child(ren)’s school directly for assistance as needed. If we cannot help, we can help align you with other community resources.

Our staff misses the students each day, they eagerly await the day we can come together again in our schools. I know that for our senior class, they will have missed out on so many activities that mark the culmination of their time as students in Port Edwards. This group of students has worked for many years toward their graduation and I want each of them to know, that their achievements and determination as students is not unnoticed. This is a situation that none of us wanted and is beyond our control, but know that we will emerge and continue on with Blackhawk Pride!

Sincerely,

Kyle Cronan
District Administrator