March 12, 2020

Dear Families and Community,

Hazel Park Schools continues to monitor the evolving Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation in Michigan, and throughout the world. Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer has declared a State of Emergency and health officials are warning that there are likely to be more confirmed cases throughout the state. The Governor’s office has also provided guidance to schools regarding large events and gatherings that we will be using to inform our decision making.

It is important to emphasize that there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hazel Park Schools and no staff member or student is being monitored by health officials at this time. This health emergency is creating a great deal of misinformation, and we encourage you to reach out to the central office when you have questions regarding the schools. The measures that follow are in place until further notice. We will continue to monitor and make determinations as additional guidance is provided by public health officials and the Governor’s office.

Our immediate plan for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in our community is based on three factors:

1. Avoiding unnecessary exposure of our staff and students to illness.
2. Working to the best of our ability to ensure the continuity of teaching and learning at Hazel Park Schools.
3. Protecting the health and well-being of our community, especially those who are most vulnerable to illness.

OUR RESPONSE

The following decisions made by the district leadership team are based upon the information available today. Though these decisions are effective immediately, they will be re-evaluated continuously as new information becomes available from the Oakland County Health Department, Governor Whitmer’s office, Michigan Department of Education, and the Center for Disease Control.
We will communicate with all students, staff, and community members regularly via social media, the district’s website, and our email broadcast system.

- **All school-sponsored travel** within the U.S. is cancelled.

- **All staff conferences and district-sponsored travel for staff** are cancelled.

- **All field trips** are cancelled.

- **All assemblies** in the schools are canceled.

- **Parent-Teacher conferences** are cancelled. Principals will reach out tomorrow with plans to connect via phone.

- **All School Athletics are cancelled** through the end of this week. Further decisions will be made after that time. Certain high school athletic competitions will continue as scheduled under the guidance of Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). We will look to the MHSAA for ongoing guidance and connect with families if this guidance changes.

- **All after-school academic clubs, plays, concerts, groups and activities** are canceled.

- **All community meetings, rentals, and gatherings** scheduled to take place within our school facilities until further notice are canceled. This includes scheduled PTO events or meetings and all facility rentals.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP**

In addition to the measures listed above, we advise all caretakers and community members to take extra special care of their health. Hazel Park Schools thrives in large part because of classroom volunteers and we urge you to only visit when you are feeling well.

Although we are comforted by the news that children are much less vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, we would still like to reinforce the importance of keeping sick children home. If your student is sick, please keep them home. It is important that you inform the school that your child is “absent”
each day. We will ask you to share how your student’s illness is progressing so that we can track what is happening in our schools.

**CUSTODIAL UPDATE**

We continue to utilize our “Clorox 360” cleaning device which we have been rotating through the schools. These electrostatic sprayers deliver sanitizing spray to surfaces quickly and efficiently. Sprayers can cover 18,000 square feet per hour, making it easy to quickly disinfect the most populated sections of our buildings quickly and safely in the evening when students and staff are not present. The spray kills 99.9% of bacteria in five seconds and kills cold and flu viruses including COVID-19, MRSA, and norovirus in two minutes or less. It also sanitizes soft surfaces and inhibits the growth of mold and mildew.

In the last month, our custodial services department has increased the CDC recommendations for disinfection of school surfaces including athletic equipment and technology. Due to the increased work level for our custodial staff, we are approaching the Board of Education to increase our custodial services. Lastly and perhaps, most importantly, we have been adding hand washing protocols throughout the school.

**CONTINUING TO PLAN**

Our team continues to engage in contingency planning, should the need to close school arise. This includes a discussion around supporting students with limited access to technology and students in need of our food service program during a prolonged closure.

We are in unprecedented territory here, and we are grateful for your support and patience as we respond in the most thoughtful and reasoned way. Our team is steadfast in our commitment to student and staff safety. Providing a clean, safe and healthy environment is a job we take seriously and we appreciate your cooperation and support as we continue to make decisions based on what is in the best interest of all learners and educators.

**WHO TO CONTACT**

If Hazel Park families have any questions or concerns, they can contact their building principal or contact us at 248.658.5200. For questions regarding the coronavirus itself, please contact the Oakland County Health Division’s Nurse on Call at (800) 848-5533 or noc@oakgov.com.
RESOURCES

- Oakland County Health Division:
  https://www.oakgov.com/health/information/Pages/NovelCoronavirus.aspx
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services:
  https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_5104_97675---,00.html
- CDC – Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19):
- World Health Organization – Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak:
  https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

Thank you for your support of Hazel Park Schools!

With students in mind,

Dr. Amy Kruppe
Superintendent