

ROGERS CITY AREA SCHOOLS

1033 West Huron Avenue
ROGERS CITY, MICHIGAN 49779

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April 7, 2020

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

On April 2, 2020 we received the Executive Order 2020-35 signed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer, which closed all school facilities in the State of Michigan for the remainder of this school year as a result of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. School districts are required by the Executive Order to develop plans for educating their students remotely. Our staff members are creative, intelligent and hard-working, they will do their very best to provide for the needs of our students during this pandemic. We appreciate the work of our Governor Gretchen Whitmer, State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice as they continue to put the public health first along with addressing the needs of our public education at this extraordinarily challenging and difficult times. We would like to ensure that parents have resources to continue their student's education from the safety of their homes. We understand there is not a video chat or homework packet that can replace the value of a highly trained, experienced teacher working with students. Our plan is attempting to meet the needs that are appropriate, equitable and accessible to students and their families.

Our school district's plan to provide at-home supplemental learning opportunities for students along with the description of the plan are as follows:

- Starting the week of April 20, 2020, Students in grades 6-12 will need to arrive at school on the appropriate assigned date corresponding with your last name. Students are to report to their assigned locker to pick up course materials, appropriate books as needed and remove all personal items.
- Doors will be open to the front of the building from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Doors will be propped open to allow for hands free access. Students and one parent/guardian will be allowed into the school on an individual basis to accomplish this. There will be a table as you walk into the building where students can set down items they may need to return. Contact information to continue the supplemental learning process will be provided with course work. Evaluation of these materials will be conducted as outlined in the learning packets.
- Students are assigned the following dates:
 - A - C - Monday, April 20, 2020
 - D - G - Tuesday, April 21, 2020
 - H - L - Wednesday, April 22, 2020
 - M - S - Thursday, April 23, 2020
 - T - Z - Friday, April 24, 2020

- Social Distancing will be enforced. Please remain in your vehicles, using the Huron Avenue parking lot, until you are directed to enter the building.
- Cap, gowns and diploma covers will be placed in student lockers. All seniors eligible for graduation will be mailed their diploma by June 1, 2020. At this time, it is too early to determine if or when a graduation ceremony will be scheduled.
- Elementary students and parents will **NOT** be coming into the building. Each teacher will send out a text using REMIND or call parents to let them know of the parking lot, date, and time that they will be assigned to come pick up learning packets that are being put together by teachers. Student belongings from their lockers and desks, and any books that are needed will be included. Parents and students will be asked to remain in vehicles during this time. This pack up will take place during the week of April 20-24.
- In addition to learning packets, some elementary teachers will be utilizing an online option for elementary students as well. Parents/students may choose to do only the packets, only online, or a combination of both. All opportunities are optional. The online learning will begin on or before April 20. The online platforms will consist of Google Classroom, Zoom, Seesaw, Dojo, and/or Facebook. Teachers will notify parents via REMIND, an email, or phone call of the directions necessary for the students to be successful online learners.
- The elementary staff will connect to their students throughout this time period by using REMIND, an online platform, emails, and telephone calls. Parents and students are encouraged to do the same when they have questions regarding the provided work.

Credit will be awarded for all students in grades K-12 for both the third and fourth marking periods and 2nd semester for current courses. Credit will not be based on supplemental work. Transcripts will be completed for seniors and certified. All seniors will be given the opportunity to graduate this year so that they may make a successful postsecondary transition. However, those seniors requiring additional on-line class work, this course work must be completed in order to graduate.

Please know the mental health of our students is vitally important during these unprecedented events. Mrs. Dimick (marilyn.dimick@rcashurons.org – (989) 734-9178) our school counselor will help with students individually as well as Ms. Abbey Idalski, School Success Worker (abbey.idalski@rcashurons.org). Also available are Mr. Dana LaBar (dlabar@tbchs.org (989) 734-5067) and Ms. Cathy O'Brien are our Behavior Health therapists from Thunder Bay. Please make use of these resources as needed. Our school district will continue to provide meals for families who need them during the COVID-19 Crisis. If you need meals please contact: (989) 734-9101 or victoria.paull@rcashurons.org.

Please take some time to review this information with students. If you have questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Hein
Rogers City Superintendent