



# Deer Park Community City Schools

*Deer Park Schools - "Achieving Excellence Together"*

Jay Phillips, Superintendent

Melissa Harner, Treasurer

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March, 2020

Dear Deer Park Families -

Recognizing that a few districts in the state of Ohio have begun to self-quarantine their staff and/or students to minimize the potential for COVID-19 outbreaks, we are notifying you of potential school closure plans so that you can prepare accordingly, should we need to close schools to protect students and staff. We have **NOT** determined that a school closure is imminent and at this time the Governor's Office has communicated that he isn't recommending K-12 school closures. However, we feel it's important to keep the lines of communication open should a significant school closure be determined to be necessary anytime in the near future.

While our district calendar provides school participation hours well over the state minimum, we believe it is imperative to keep our students engaged in learning during days that school is canceled. This may also prevent us from having to make up days at the end of the school year, should any additional mandatory quarantines take place later in the spring.

In the event of a prolonged school closure, our district staff will be preparing lessons and assignments to be completed at home, which could be a combination of paper-pencil, "real-life", and electronic tasks. Assignments will be posted in an electronic format using the communication platform used most regularly with the specific teacher's students, such as Schoology, Class Dojo, etc. If you do not have internet access at home, please let your child's teacher know and alternative assignments will be provided.

Teachers will communicate reasonable "office hours" during each day for students to ask questions and/or get virtual assistance with any tasks during regular school hours. Teachers will also remain diligent about parent communication during any closure and will answer emails in a timely fashion during typical school hours.

As a reminder, we have **NOT** determined that a school closure is imminent, but we want to make sure and communicate to you ahead of time what our plans will be should a prolonged closing occur anytime in the near future.

Lastly, I want to encourage everyone to be proactive in your own planning regarding child care, work responsibilities, etc. We know that potential school closings are not ideal for anyone, but we must be prepared should this become a reality.

We are in this thing together and I appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we traverse this unknown territory.

Sincerely,

Jay Phillips



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Superintendent  
Deer Park Community City School District