



## CARLISLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

[www.carlislecsd.org](http://www.carlislecsd.org)

March 20, 2020

Carlisle Families,

Thank you for our patience as we work to develop a plan for the upcoming school closure period. We are getting guidance from state and local agencies on a daily basis concerning how we can support our students and families during this time. We are in uncharted territory right now, and it is going to take time to plan out what will, and can happen over the next several weeks. As we work together to move forward, I will continue to share information about the district's plan for student learning during closure.

As a district, we are following closely the [guidance given to us from the Iowa Department of Education](#) about how to navigate this unprecedented time in public schools. This guidance does define what schools should and should not provide while we are closed in accordance with the provisions of Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) as well as compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). All teachers and schools in Iowa are using this guidance as a roadmap for how to navigate the coming weeks

We know you and your student have many questions about grades, credit, graduation, making-up lost instruction, etc. Please know that we are working to plan for the unknown and provide answers to the many questions

We would like to provide a list of learning resources to make navigating the coming weeks with your students a little easier (List of resources on page 2 of this letter).

The district has no expectation that families provide instruction at home while school is closed. When our students return to us, our teachers will meet each child where they are, and we will move forward together.

- This list does not in any way represent the full depth and breadth of resources that the district and our teachers use to develop our curriculum.
- Some of these resources require instruction and direction from an adult; others are self-paced and students can engage with them independently.
- This is not an exhaustive list of quality resources and the district will be updating this list as our planning progresses. This allows us to support ALL Carlisle students in an equitable way.

Keep in mind that the stress and uncertainty that we are feeling as adults likely feels even bigger to our students. Learning is important, but so is emotional safety and personal space to navigate the feelings that come from having limited social contact and disruption of routine.

Remember that we are all experiencing something we've never experienced before, and I know we will come together as a school community and be stronger on the other side of this unprecedented event. I'd ask that you stay positive and promote the good and let us know your concerns and allow us to address those concerns individually. We will continue to send out updates and information via email to families and our [district webpage](#).

Thank you again for your continued support and Go Cats!!!

### **Carlisle District Leadership**

*Bryce Amos, Superintendent of Schools*  
*Brandon Eighmy, Director of HR & School Services*  
*Dana Lillis, Director of Teaching & Learning*  
*Barb Niemeyer, CES Principal*

*Tim Norton, HUES Principal*  
*John Elkin, CMS Principal*  
*Matthew Blackmore, CHS Principal*  
*Darin Schreck, 7-12 Activities Director*

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**PK-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Resources**

[LIST OF EDUCATION COMPANIES OFFERING FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSINGS](#)

[National Geographic for Kids](#)

[Common Sense Education \(10 free websites\)](#)

[A Day in our Shoes \(Free Websites\)](#)

[Discovery Education \(Free Virtual Field Trips\)](#)

[We Are Teachers \(Best Virtual Field Trips\)](#)

[How to Homeschool for Free \(Huge list of Virtual Field Trips\)](#)

[Khan Academy](#)

[Scholastic Learn at Home](#)

[Math Playground](#)

[Make Me Genius \(K-5 Science Videos\)](#)

[MS Science Simulations](#)

[77 MORE STEM activities for Families \(PDF\)](#)

[Discovery Education Virtual Field Trips](#)

[Daily Writing Prompts, Inspired by The New York Times, at Home for Free](#)

[Twitter: #OperationStorytime](#)

[PBS Kids Design Squad](#)

[30 Day Lego Challenge](#)

[Iowa AEA Digital Resources](#)

[Ted Talks: \(Videos\)](#)

[The Big List of Children's Authors Doing Online Read Alouds & Activities](#)

[25 Amazing Virtual Field Trips for Kids—Spring 2020](#)

[Smithsonian Museums Virtual Tours](#)

[TedEd Social Studies Videos](#)

[At Home PE Ideas from IowaAHPERD](#)

[Get Kids Moving](#)

[Hero Workouts](#)

[Coding For Kids](#)

[Code.org](#)

[Code Break](#)

[Virtual Nerd \(6-12 Math\)](#)

[Math TV](#)

[CMS Band Webpage](#)

[The Arty Teacher](#)