April 9, 2020

Dear Flint Community Schools Employees and Partners,

We have been taking the COVID-19 situation day-by-day and evaluating our plan of action while keeping in mind what is best for our students, staff and communities.

On March 23, 2020, Governor Whitmer signed Executive Order (“EO”) 2020-21, which directs (subject to limited exceptions) all residents in Michigan to remain in their place of residence to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Following the governor’s order to stay home and stay safe, we strongly encourage you to follow the guidelines within the order.

While the EO states that “no person or entity shall operate a business or conduct operations that require workers to leave their homes or places of residence except to the extent that those workers are necessary to sustain or protect life or to conduct minimum basic operations,” the EO also contains important exceptions that apply to school operations during the closure.

Under Executive Order Paragraphs 4(b) and 7(a)(3), a worker may report to work if the worker’s in-person presence is necessary to conduct “minimum basic operations,” such as ensuring security, processing transactions (including payroll and employee benefits), or facilitating other workers’ ability to work remotely.

Furthermore, businesses and operations must determine which of their workers are necessary to conduct minimum basic operations and inform such workers of that designation. Businesses and operations must make such designations in writing, whether by electronic message, public website, or other appropriate means. Such designations, however, may be made orally until March 31, 2020 at 11:59 pm.

Flint Community Schools has determined it necessary to identify and designate: Executives, Building Administrators, Central Office Human Resources, Finance, Learning Support Services, State and Federal Programs, Student Services and Pupil Accounting, Communication and Technology Services, Food Service Workers, Security, Maintenance and Custodial Services, as “Critical Infrastructure Workers.”

Moreover, to ensure that our food distribution to students is adequately staffed and to maintain safe operations, we are designating our Food Service Workers for daily food preparation, and other Transportation Workers and District staff on a rotational basis. We recognized that you may have concerns regarding your health and well-being, however, we believe we are taking every safety precaution necessary to provide a secure and safe environment while we allow for food distribution. We will keep you informed. Updates will be posted on the district website as news and relevant information become available. We encourage families to stay tuned for robo calls, as well as updates on social media and the district website for relevant information.

Consistent with the Governor’s EOs, our schools and offices continue to operate remotely to the fullest extent possible. District buildings are open on a very limited basis only to essential employees until further notice. If you have questions or requests, please email us.

We encourage you to stay safe and follow our Governor’s orders.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these ever-changing circumstances.

Your Partner in Education,

Anita J. Steward
Assistant Superintendent