

PURCHASE LINE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Office of the Superintendent

March 15, 2020

Dear PLSD Families:

As previously announced, Governor Wolf has closed ALL SCHOOLS in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. **Purchase Line School District will be closed from Monday, March 16, 2020, through Friday, March 27, 2020.** Additionally, President Trump announced a National State of Emergency. During the mandated closure, the PA Department of Education has notified schools that only essential personnel are permitted in school buildings. The Wolf Administration will continue to monitor COVID-19 in the Commonwealth and at the end of the 10 days, reevaluate and decide whether continued closure is needed.

As for the education of our students, when the government shuts down districts, Governor Wolf stated, “that no school district will be penalized if it fails to meet the 180-day requirement or school hours requirements.” At this time, we are gathering information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) about the interpretation of that statement. When we get clarity from the PDE, the district will clearly communicate the plan for instruction and content delivery if the closure would continue past the 10 days. Additionally, we are working with community organizations to see if we can develop a plan to provide school lunches to our students if the closure continues past the 10 days.

There will be no classes, meetings, events, extracurricular activities, athletics or field trips during this time. The purpose of this closure is to provide social-distancing to fight the spread of the virus. During this time, if you can keep your family at home, please do so. Try to avoid large-group gatherings and follow the guidelines provided by the PA Department of Health - (<https://www.health.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention – (<https://www.cdc.gov/>).

I realize there are many questions. Unfortunately at this moment, we do not have all the answers. As decisions are made and information becomes available, I will communicate this to our staff, families, and community. The phone messaging system will be used for high priority announcements. We will continue to use Facebook and EZtexting for passing along announcements and alerting you when new information is posted on the coronavirus page of the website (<https://www.plsd.k12.pa.us/>) under the resource tab.

The COVID-19 pandemic is very fluid and ever changing. We anticipate many changes and updates. This is a difficult time for everyone. Your cooperation, patience, and support are greatly appreciated. With that said, I am thankful that we are all blessed with the Purchase Line family to support one another during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Shawn L. Ford
Superintendent of Schools