



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Monday, March 23, 2020

Important Update - School Closures Extended

Dear YCSD Families and Staff,

Governor Ralph Northam has extended the statewide K-12 school closings for the remainder of the school year. We know that this news is concerning and even disheartening to our families and staff. We understand and share those concerns with you.

This afternoon, I participated in a phone call with Dr. James Lane, Virginia’s superintendent of public instruction. The state is working to address questions related to graduation, continuity of learning, and grading options as we move forward. We will provide additional information after we receive guidance from the state and are able to determine our next steps. Please know that our team of administrators, teachers, and support staff will continue to do everything in our power to support our students and families.

I want to share how proud I am of our staff and students for the work undertaken during our first week of Extended Learning Plans. I know there is frustration related to the state’s recommendation that there be no grading of the work issued during these initial two weeks. Given today’s news from the governor, we are seeking further guidance from the state on this topic and will update you as soon as we are able. I encourage students to continue their schoolwork, regardless of grading practices, as it will help prepare students for the next stages of our learning plans.

Finally, I know we are also experiencing a variety of emotions right now, especially members of our senior class. Please know that we share many of the same sentiments. We miss our students and staff, but are hopeful the strategies in place will help our community and our nation overcome this unprecedented global emergency.

As we continue through this new journey together, we ask for your patience as we carefully consider the best way to support our students, staff, and families. This will take some time, but we will move forward together.

Please reach out with questions and concerns at askycsd@ycsd.york.va.us. We will continue to update our website with information and answers to your questions.

Sincerely,

Victor Shandor, Ed.D.
Division Superintendent

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Mark J. Shafer District 1		Brett Higginbotham District 2		Laurel M. Garrelts District 3
				James E. Richardson District 4
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