



## Community Schools

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April 3, 2020

GLCS Families,

On Thursday, April 2, Governor Gretchen Whitmer made an executive order to suspend PK-12 in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. We have focused on providing At-Home learning materials during the initial “Stay Home, Stay Safe” period that ran through April 5th, and now have the ability to develop our Continuous Learning Plan for the remainder of the school year. I am pleased to announce that Gull Lake Community Schools are submitting a finalized application for approval through the designated channels. We have been given the discretion to serve our students and families and will be giving credit for the learning that will be taking place via our new delivery plan. Seniors will be able to complete their courses in a timely way and all of our students will be able to progress successfully to the next grade level as part of our Continuous Learning Plan.

We are in a space where there will be some additional questions related to educating students during this global crisis, and we have a process for actively seeking answers to address all of your concerns. As continuous learning plans develop, our staff have been focusing on how we will enhance the following:

- Reconnecting with students and supporting social, emotional, and learning needs,
- Creating daily structure for student learning within both digital and print formats,
- Determining essential learning content in a way that is easily accessible for families, and
- Assessing technology needs based on parent surveys and creating a process for distributing needed devices.

Staff have been preparing diligently behind the scenes and are ensuring that all parts of the new guidance documents are being worked into the plan. We will be communicating additional structures, supports, and timelines for you and your students early next week. We want to encourage everyone to be active and engaged learners who are invested in progressing to the next level!

We appreciate everyone’s understanding as we navigate through many layers of planning. We will be announcing dates and details on when building access will be available in order to obtain any student items that were left. Further communication regarding district recognitions, ceremonies, awards, and orientations will be made available as new facts are presented. Our primary goal continues to be student and family health, wellbeing, and safety.

Best Regards,  
Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent  
Gull Lake Community Schools