



Michigan District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

People of Hope ... Vigorously Making Known the Love of Christ

Leaders, Educators, and Families of our Michigan District Lutheran Schools,

The governor made the decision today to close all public and nonpublic school buildings for the remainder of the school year. Although many of us knew this was most likely going to happen as things have progressed since early March, it does not lessen the significance of this news. Many of us are grieving today; we are struggling with losing these last months of the school year and the impact it will have on so many of our students, teachers, and families. But at the same time, we understand the necessity for the governor's decision and recognize how these steps can support the dedicated workers in our health care system and slow the spread of the virus.

So what does this mean for our Lutheran schools? The school year is not canceled! Even though we cannot be in our school buildings, we still have a ton of work to do. Our teachers are prepared to continue delivering great content as they advance through the curriculum, our students are eager to keep learning (most of the time 😊), and our families have a need for their kids to grow as they progress through the remainder of the school year. Taking off five months and not returning to school until the fall is not an option.

As a father of three daughters who have all been learning at home, I've experienced first-hand the tremendous work their teachers have done in partnering with us to make sure our girls' education is a priority. And this is happening throughout all of our Lutheran schools. Our students are blessed by devoted educators keeping them on a path of success and by parents and other adults stepping up in mighty ways.

You are in my prayers on a daily basis, and I am excited to see how our Lutheran schools thrive during this challenging time. We certainly will have some fun stories to tell when we are back in the classrooms. Until the time when we once again are able to gather together, keep trusting in our Risen Savior knowing His love will continue to flow to us and through us as we rely on Him for everything we need...

Serving Him,

Travis Grulke
Superintendent of Schools
Michigan District, LCMS

April 2nd / 2020