



December 8, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Yesterday, Governor Whitmer held a press conference to announce a 12-day extension of the current Emergency Order from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The extension runs through Sunday, December 20, 2020. The extended Emergency Order requires schools to continue with remote learning for students in grades 9-12 and extends the temporary suspension of all athletic and extra-curricular activities. The extended Emergency Order does allow local school districts to return to in-person learning for some Career and Technical Education programs. Further communication will be forthcoming regarding Berrien Springs CTE programs.

Currently, Berrien Springs Public Schools will continue with remote learning for all students in grades PreK-12 through Friday, December 18. Please remember that some programming and student supports may not be exactly the same at each of our buildings. Our staff will continue to address the learning and social/emotional needs of all our students which may differ from grade-to-grade and among different age groups. Each building principal will provide you with communication specific to each district school and the learning needs of those students should there be any changes.

The district continues to implement the safety protocols and procedural guidelines recommended by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, the Berrien County Health Department and the Berrien Springs Return to School Roadmap. A copy of our district's Roadmap is available on the school district's website at [www.homeoftheshamrocks.org](http://www.homeoftheshamrocks.org).

Our school district will continue to follow all recommended and necessary precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at all times. Please be reminded of the importance of remaining vigilant in practicing the following safety protocols to mitigate the spread of all illness:

- Wearing a facial covering
- Practicing frequent hand washing
- Remaining home when sick
- Parents are reminded to screen students daily for potential symptoms of illness before sending them to school
- Staff are reminded to complete the daily health screener before reporting to school

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support healthy practices at home, in the community and in your personal daily activities as we respond to these events in our school district. I continue to appreciate the way our staff and students demonstrate flexibility and cooperation during this very challenging time.

Sincerely,

  
David Eichberg, Superintendent