



March 15, 2020

Subject: March 16<sup>th</sup> Royal Remote Learning

Dear Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 Students, Staff, and Families,

Last night we received further guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and I was also on a conference call with ISBE this morning. Utilizing this new information along with the DeKalb County Health Department suggestion to limit gatherings greater than 25 people, we will be utilizing a Royal Remote Learning day tomorrow, March 16th.

Students will receive communication from their teacher(s) to further provide information about their Royal Remote Learning experience utilizing either Google Classroom or the school email account. This will be relayed no later than 9:00 tomorrow morning. To see our Royal Remote Learning Plan in its entirety, [click here](#). This document will provide additional information related to Monday's Royal Remote Learning day.

Ideally, we would have provided access to resources that some students will need for our Royal Remote Learning last Friday. With Governor Pritzker's 3.17.2020-3.30.2020 mandated school closure announcement after school dismissal on Friday afternoon, we were not able to adhere to that desire. In light of that, our buildings will be open on Monday morning, 3.16.2020, from 8:00 am - 11:30 am and 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm in order to check out a Chromebook or gain access to materials that are not shared digitally. If this is a need, feel free to stop in and pick up these resources. If you cannot make it between these hours, we have contingencies in our Royal Remote Learning and the student will have an opportunity to make up the work.

As shared last Friday, students will not be in attendance on March 17th, March 18th, and March 30th. Remember, students were not scheduled to be in attendance from March 19th through March 29th with parent teacher conferences, an institute day, and spring break. For additional clarification during this time period, we will not have parent-teacher conferences on Thursday, 3.19.2020. There will also be no extra-curricular or co-curricular practices of any sort effective March 16th through March 30<sup>th</sup>.

As announced last Friday, until further notice from our DeKalb County Health Department, all field trips, after school competitions, concerts, and social gatherings will be suspended until further notice. Additionally, all visitors and outside classroom presenters will not be allowed to come into the buildings. At this time, these extra precautions are in place until further notice. This could change as additional information is shared by our local state agencies and health experts.

Staff will be meeting on Monday, 3.16.2020, to plan for continuity of learning experiences on March 17th, 18th, and 30th. Rest assured, we will do all that we can to ensure that your child's learning continues to move forward during these unusual times. You can expect to learn more about this sometime tomorrow. We have learned that the scheduled school days between March 17th and March 30th are being deemed as Act of God days by the State of Illinois and therefore, will not require the use of our emergency days. At this time, our last day of attendance for the 2019-2020 school year will still be May 22nd. This of course, is subject to change depending on future decisions and events.

As this is a fluid situation, we will continue to prepare and plan for the event that school is potentially cancelled for a longer period of time. We will also continue to keep our lines of communication open, monitor the situation, and make contingency plans. Thanks for your understanding and patience as we experience an unprecedented time for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Travis L. McGuire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and 'M'.

Dr. Travis L. McGuire  
Superintendent