



March 19, 2020

Dear Panther Families:

As we begin to settle in to some of the challenges of our remote learning environment, I think it's important we all remember we're in uncharted waters. Our students aren't used to learning this way, our teachers aren't used to educating this way and our parents aren't used to parenting (and co-teaching) this way. But please know we are all in this together and our staff remains committed to providing your child(ren) with valuable instruction and academic activities throughout this mandated school closing.

With the ongoing concerns beginning to impact us at the local level, I also want to share some operational changes impacting us on a day-to-day basis.

1. Board approves extension of state mandated closure. At last night's board meeting, a resolution approving an extension of Governor DeWine's mandated school closure was approved. We will be extending the state-mandated school closure through Holy Week.

Here is the text of the resolution approved last night:

*Given that the Bishops of Ohio have cancelled all public Masses through Easter, Sandusky Central Catholic School does not feel it is prudent for our students and staff to return to school before a time when Masses can be celebrated publicly.*

*For this reason, at their March 18 Board Meeting, the SCCS Board of Directors approved a resolution to extend the school closure ordered by Governor DeWine. This revision will keep the school closed during Holy Week, April 6 through 9, 2020. Spring Break is not impacted by this closure and will remain as scheduled, April 10 through 17. Teachers will continue to provide remote learning opportunities for their students up to Spring Break.*

*Unless otherwise directed by state or local governmental officials, school will resume as scheduled after Spring Break with classes starting again on April 20, 2020.*

2. Enhanced Closure restricts building to essential personnel. While our custodial crew has been making significant strides in sanitizing all spaces within our building, the need to further restrict building access has become apparent.

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Therefore, our building administrative assistants and administrative team members will be completing most of their duties remotely. Phone calls between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. will continue to be answered by our administrative assistants with the ability to connect calls to administrative team members either directly or via voicemails. Just as with our teachers, we are committed to respond to calls (or emails) as soon as possible and always within 24 hours.

During this enhanced closure, which will continue throughout the state mandated school closing, staff members are encouraged to enter the building only during the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. and only if that access is essential to the completion of their assigned duties.

We are in the midst of a very challenging time and our staff, families and students have, indeed, answered the call. It is important for all of us to adhere to the direction being provided by the Governor's Office, the Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control. Links to those and other useful webpages can be found at our recently established [SCCS Extended School Closure Resource Page](#) which contains a variety of resources and tips useful to parents and students alike. We will continue to add helpful new information to this section in the coming days and will continue to update you when new resources are available.

Please stay safe and stay

Panther Strong!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Geoff Palmer, President