

Southern Local School District Families,

Please be aware that Governor Mike DeWine announced today that he is closing ALL SCHOOLS in the State of Ohio for three weeks beginning Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. As a result of the Governor's decision, please be aware that the Southern Local School District will now be closed through Friday, April 3, 2020. Again, the Southern Local School District will be closed through Friday, April 3, 2020.

In addition to schools being closed, there will be no practices, meetings, activities or events between now and April 6, 2020. Given the extended time period students will not be in school, I will be reviewing all other field trips over the next week and will be imposing additional cancellations.

Our buildings are closed during this time to any use by outside groups. This would include any camps, youth organizations, community athletic programs, or other groups that routinely use our buildings for pick-up games, programming, or other activities. The decision to close the schools is based on the principle of social distancing. For this reason, we must protect the integrity of the decision by not allowing other groups to utilize our facilities for group activities. This directive is in place until further notice. Any previously approved building use between now and April 6<sup>th</sup> is officially rescinded.

Due to contractual obligations related to calamity days, teachers and other employees will not be working next week. As a result, we will be in planning the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup> in regards to meal and food deliveries.

I know that there will be many questions. Unfortunately, at this very moment I do not have answers finalized. As decisions are made and information becomes available, I will communicate to our families.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we work through the specific details of this closure.

Tony Deem  
Superintendent



Southern Local Schools

920 Elm Street

Racine, Ohio 45771

(740) 949-4222