

Good evening parents, this is Vaughn White, Superintendent of Hesperia Community Schools with an important message.

Parents, this evening Governor Whitmer presented an emergency order through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to stem the rapid spread of this virus. She described the situation to be even more dire than when we closed schools last March.

The order extends to many community-based situations but there are a few specific orders for public schools. First, beginning Wednesday, November 18, in-person school is suspended for all Michigan high schools for 3 weeks through December 8, 2020. High school students will be completing their schooling remotely during this period of time. High school students will return on Tuesday, November 17 and it is important for them to return for this one day in order to touch base with their teachers and recap their learning. It will also help them get ready for the next three weeks of learning remotely. In addition, this order immediately suspends all extra-curricular activities and all sports for the same 3-week period.

Governor Whitmer said in her address that high schools are mandated because recent data shows a concentration in high school Covid-positive cases over cases in the middle and elementary schools.

Parents we are watching this situation closely, as more positive cases of Covid-19 unfold in our school system. Yet today we learned of some additional staff testing positive in the elementary school that caused us to quarantine one classroom and extend the quarantine period for another. Fortunately, we will have a number of students and staff returning back to their elementary classrooms on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Although we desire to continue in-person learning for students, there may be a point that we will have to suspend in-person instruction for a period of time. The board of education will be discussing options at the board meeting on Monday night. We will let you know soon of any changes in our learning plan that comes from that meeting.

Thank you and have a good evening.