



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

9930 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315 Mark Kasmer, Principal
Phone: (616) 878-4852 - Fax: (616) 878-7196 Email: office@byroncentercharter.org

BCCS Update 3/24/20

Dear Parents/ Guardian of BCCS Students,

Yesterday Governor Whitmer declared a Stay Home, Say Safe executive order ([2020-21](#)) in an effort to "... suppress the spread of COVID-19, to prevent the state's health care system from being overwhelmed, to allow time for the production of critical test kits, ventilators, and personal protective equipment, and to avoid needless deaths,..." The order requests all but essential employees to remain at home, or their place of residence. If people do leave home for necessary activities, then they are expected to follow the [Center of Disease and Control Prevention Guidelines](#). This order began today remains in effect until April 13 for all of Michigan.

We recognize this can be frightening times for many, especially younger and older members of our families and friends. BCCS is committed to provide communications and resources to assist the members of our school community. We encourage you to access the resources on our [school's website](#), including k-5 academics, art music & PE activities, tools for social / emotional welfare, and COVID-19 health & safety supports. In addition, all newsletters and updates from this office are chronologically posted on our website under the About Us tab for your reference. If we learn of changes in schedules or methods of distribution of the [local meal and food programs](#), BCCS will send out updates to families. Finally, our teachers will continue to communicate and share educational activities and resources with students and parents/guardians.

Parents and students have asked many questions about the impact COVID-19 will have on Michigan schools. Many have shared concerns about student grades, course credits, promotion to the next grade, reading by grade 3 law, state testing, and graduation among other things. I ask for your patience and understanding. As noted earlier, this is a very fluid situation, so timeliness in decision-making is critical. The leaders of schools were told to expect guidance from MDE soon. I anticipate the communication from state officials will answer some questions, and will address the disposition of those questions that are yet to be determined. Nonetheless, we should expect some clarity in the next few days.

In closing, let us do our best to do what is right. I ask that we all do what we can to help one another get through this difficult time. We all should follow the guidance of our state officials and avoid activity that jeopardizes the common good. If you are in need of something, do not hesitate to ask. We will do our best to assist our BCCS families. Be safe and stay well!

With Care,
Mark R. Kasmer
BCCS CAO