



312 W. Maple Avenue  
Byron, MI 48418  
Phone: (810) 266-4881

## Byron Area Schools

March 12, 2020

Dear Families:

On Tuesday evening, Governor Whitmer announced the first two confirmed cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Michigan. Currently, we are not aware of any cases directly impacting our school community. The communication from the health departments and other associations regarding COVID-19 is continual. We are confident that health providers will continue to update us along with the public as new information evolves. At Byron Area Schools, we are committed to the health and safety of all students and staff. We will continue to stay apprised of future developments.

Byron Area Schools is following Governor Whitmer's and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' recommendations to slow the transmission of the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

At this time, please take note of the following important details regarding our district:

- Beginning today, school activities and events with more than 100 people in a shared space will be canceled (will not be rescheduled) or suspended (temporarily canceled with the potential of being rescheduled at a later date).
- At this time, athletic practices will continue as usual. The district will follow the Michigan High School Athletic Association's (MHSAA) and the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference's guidelines with regards to competitions. Coaches will communicate with student athletes as information becomes available.
- Field trips scheduled to destinations outside of our school district are suspended until April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Child Care will continue as scheduled.

With respect to specific activities and events, we will be finalizing decisions each week. Listed below are the changes for the next ten (10) days:

- Drama Production of "Mary Poppins, Jr"  
*Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm ONLY*
  - The timing of this single performance will allow for the specific cleaning advised by the health department.
  - All other scheduled performances are canceled.
- Family Literacy Night  
*Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm is canceled.*

Following is information regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Symptoms are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If your child is ill, keep him/her home from school and notify the school of your child's absence. A child with a heavy cough and cold, vomiting, and/or fever should stay home. A child must be fever free, without fever reducing medication, for 24 hours before returning to school. We encourage parents/guardians to seek medical attention from a healthcare professional should your child have a fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath.

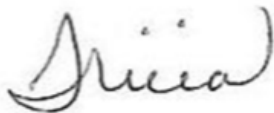
We can all take preventative measures to minimize the spread of communicable diseases. Health authorities indicate that the best ways to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus are the same recommendations for preventing the spread of the flu virus. The [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#) advises the following steps can be taken to prevent the spread of flu and the common cold that will also help prevent the Coronavirus disease, including:

- Washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoiding contact with people who are sick.
- Staying home if you are sick and contact your healthcare provider.

We encourage you to stay informed from experts in the health field. For the most up-to-date from national, state, and local health officials you can visit the [Center for Disease Control](#), the [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#), or the [Shiawassee County Health Department](#).

We will continue to monitor the situation, in partnership with our health experts, and will keep you informed if additional measures need to be taken.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tricia".

Tricia Murphy-Alderman, Superintendent