

April 3, 2020

Dear ACEA families:

I hope that you are all staying well and are healthy. Governor Whitmer issued an Executive Order yesterday, which in short, ends face-to-face instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. It also directs school districts to develop a continuity of learning plan that will continue the education of our students in a different format other than face to face. While this gives school districts and families direction on the remainder of the school year, it also brings with it many questions that need to be answered; questions about student grades, grade promotion, graduation, etc....

We are truly saddened that our school year is coming to a close in this way, especially for our seniors. It is equally difficult for our staff who love our students and who pour their hearts and souls into our students each and every day – instilling in them academic and life skills. It is our plan to have seniors graduate and find a way to recognize their accomplishments. To clarify what defines a Senior, students who were determined as being on track to graduate this school year before the state mandated shutdown on March 16. I will be reaching out to our Seniors individually within the next few days. If you are unclear if you are considered a Senior, please reach out to either Mr. Simonds or myself.

The ACEA staff will continue to work on our continuity of learning plan over the next few weeks, and we will be communicating that plan to our students and families soon. You can continue to work on any assigned make-up work and your on-line classes. We will also be making decisions on all the other critical topics that will answer the many questions you might have about how we plan on closing out the school year. Rest assured; we are determined to make all our decisions based on what is best for our students. As these decisions are made, we will be communicating them out via Remind, ACEA's facebook page and website, aceaofmidland.com.

We know that schools provide much more than education in the classroom. Schools are places where relationships are built and memories are made. We will also continue to support our families in other basic needs such as food, toiletry items, and counseling support. In the end, we are not in control of this current pandemic, we can only react to it and make the best decisions for our students moving forward. That is exactly what we are committed to doing. Please be patient as we develop our plan moving forward, and as we make some of these critical end of the year decisions. We will be sure to communicate out these decisions as they are made. Also be on the lookout for a survey so we can get more information on the best way to support our students. The safety of our students, staff, and community is our top priority, and we thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Michelle Zielinski, ACEA Principal