



Message from North Muskegon Public Schools

## EXECUTIVE ORDER TO STAY HOME, STAY SAFE

Governor Whitmer today announced an executive order to stay home and stay safe. This “shelter in place” type order becomes effective at 12:01 am on Tuesday, March 24 (essentially tonight at midnight) and will last through Monday, April 13. This order limits the operations of non-essential businesses/organizations during this time period. [This link](#) will take you to the order from the Governor and explains exactly what is considered an “essential service” and what is not.

**COUNTY MEAL PROGRAMS:** At this time, all county food distribution sites will remain open. If you are in need of assistance in finding a food distribution site closest to your home, please contact me at 730-7647.

**ONLINE LEARNING FOR STUDENTS:** The Governor announced she is preparing guidance on this topic for schools. Stay tuned. NMPS will continue to provide online learning opportunities as well as other resources to support children and families. Do not feel like these learning opportunities are a mandate nor requirement for your kids to complete. The last thing we want parents to feel is guilt or added stress. Keep working hard for your family. Your kids need you to love and care for them during this time of uncertainty more than they need academic activities. But, if time allows, our teachers are available to provide some resources for parents to use as they see fit. <https://www.nmps.net/onlineresources>.

**CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS:** The technology support staff will keep our security and communications systems fully operational. Our maintenance staff will keep our basic minimal facility infrastructure operational including accepting shipments of supplies. Our custodial staff will be disinfecting every square foot of our facilities.

**FORGIVING DAYS OF INSTRUCTION AND REMOTE LEARNING:** Decisions related to the waiving of days and hours of instruction is a function of the Governor and Legislature. They are working to resolve this decision considering whether this closure extends beyond April 13, what options are available for districts to provide some sort of instruction remotely and have those count for days of instruction. Those conversations are ongoing and rely on guidance from the US Department of Education.



**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES YOUR FAMILY MAY NEED:** There are many resources available for families who need a helping hand during this difficult and unpredictable time. Below you can find some resources that may be able to help you or someone you know in need.

**MICHIGAN'S COVID-19 HOTLINE:** The hotline is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136. The latest information is also available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://CDC.gov/Coronavirus).

**CALL 211:** 2-1-1 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government resources in our area such as food pantries, bill pay assistance, family services, utility assistance and more. The 211 system is available by dialing 2-1-1 on your phone or by going to [mi211.org](https://mi211.org).

**MICHIGAN BRIDGES PROGRAM:** Benefits and coverage through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services such as food assistance, health care, and state emergency relief. You may access MI Bridges at [michigan.gov/mibridges](https://michigan.gov/mibridges).

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AGENCY:** Guidelines for unemployment benefits were temporarily expanded to cover the following:

Workers who have an unanticipated family care responsibility, including those who have childcare responsibilities due to school closures, or those who are forced to care for loved ones who become ill;

Workers who are sick, quarantined, or immunocompromised and who do not have access to paid family and medical leave or are laid off; and

First responders in the public health community who become ill or are quarantined due to exposure to COVID-19.

You may file an unemployment claim at [michigan.gov/uia](https://michigan.gov/uia).

**TALKING TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT COVID-19:** Wondering how to talk to your child about COVID-19 in an age-appropriate way? [Here](#) is a great resource to help parents.

**STAY HEALTHY:** Mercy Health has created a COVID-19 Hotline. If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19, you can call 1-833-247-1258 for up-to-date information.

Patients with a confirmed infection have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

Fever

Cough

Shortness of breath



The best prevention for viruses, such as influenza, the common cold or COVID-19 is:

If you think you have symptoms of COVID-19, call your healthcare provider. If you do not have a health care provider, call the nearest hospital.

Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

Avoid contact with people who are sick.

If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others.

Stay at least 6 feet away from others when in a public setting.

We are in this together! Please continue looking out for yourself, your family, our community, State, and our Nation!

Take care,

Curt