



RICHLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT NO. 1

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Chris A. Simpson, Superintendent of Schools – Chad LeCrone, Assistant Superintendent

March 20, 2020

RCCU1 Faculty & Staff,

On Friday, March 20th, Governor Pritzker issued an executive order requiring residents to “stay at home” effective Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm, through the end of April 7. As part of the Governor’s order, he announced that school will remain closed, with a new tentative reopening date of April 8. We recognize that this development may raise questions about the impact on students, staff, and families as well as the school’s role of providing meals to students and families while schools are closed. We anticipate further guidance and details from the Illinois State Board of Education in the next couple of days.

During this stay at home order, essential school personnel may still report to work as long as they are practicing social distancing. The governor’s office has assured school districts that school personnel involved in providing meals will not be in violation of the executive order. Our school district will continue with the meal program we have established, which has had a tremendous impact in making sure our students are not going hungry while school is closed.

Even in these unprecedented times, there are a few key priorities that are very important to our school district.

- Ensure that all students are receiving a meal if they need one.
- Ensure that there is some system of continuity of education that is reasonable based on the diversity of our student population.
- Ensure that all RCCU1 employees receive timely information and that their needs are being met.

Please use this opportunity to focus on staying safe and take care of yourself and your loved ones. I thank you for your patience and support as we work together to meet this challenge. This situation is evolving rapidly, and as events unfold, we will continue to communicate in a timely and transparent manner.

Sincerely,

Chris A. Simpson
Superintendent of Schools