

School Closure Update
April 7, 2020

Dear Parents, Families and Colleagues,

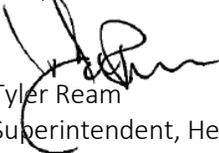
This afternoon, Governor Bullock announced the continued closure of Montana schools through Friday, April 24, 2020. This decision extends our remote services environment for an additional two weeks as our local, state and national leaders continue to monitor this pandemic. Our services, including educational, food and technology support, will continue through the duration of this closure. Please note that this coming Monday, April 13, is a scheduled non-student day. This day was included in our 2019/2020 calendar as an optional inclement weather day. With next Monday being a non-student day, our students will return to remote learning next week on Tuesday, April 14.

While necessary and responsible, this closure is difficult especially for families trying to work (many from home) while supporting their children in this new, remote learning environment. While thank you seems insignificant, please know how much each of you are appreciated. This crisis has impacted the lives of everyone in our community, state and nation. The added stress feels unbearable at times but please know that as a school community, we will transcend this together. Your feedback throughout has been invaluable and has helped us build some additional flexibility into our remote learning structures, especially for our elementary grades. While I cannot be prouder of a community of educators, we know that there are many areas within our remote services environment that need to improve. The support and feedback of our families is absolutely vital to our continued progress so please continue to reach out with messages of feedback, encouragement and/or any family-specific needs.

In closing , I want to again say thank you to every essential worker serving our Helena Community during this time of immense need. On behalf of everyone serving as part of the Helena Public Schools, please know that we appreciate you, our heroes of Helena.

Please take care, stay safe and stay connected.

Best,



Tyler Ream
Superintendent, Helena Public Schools