

North Branch Area Schools

6655 Jefferson Rd
P.O. Box 3620
North Branch, MI 48461-0620
(810) 688-3570
Fax (810) 688-7010
www.nbbrncos.net

James D. Fish
Superintendent

April 9, 2020

Dear North Branch Families,

On behalf of the North Branch Board of Education, our administrative leadership team and teaching staff would like to thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work together during this unprecedented time to provide the very best education possible for our students. Since Governor Whitmer closed all Michigan schools on March 16, 2020, we have provided numerous updates to our community. Please continue to reference the district's [FAQ](#) document for the most up to date information. Tonight, we would like to share some of the most recent updates from this past week.

- We have had a tremendous response to the teacher supported virtual learning experience that began this past Monday for all preschool - grade 12 students. Our student participation and learning in all virtual classrooms has been amazing. We are inspired to see the excitement in our students and dedication of our teachers as North Branch Schools continues to provide an exceptional education for our community.
- There will be no virtual classes tomorrow, Good Friday; however, the Curbside Meal Pick up Program and BK-8 instructional learning packets will be available tomorrow from 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m..
- The Curbside Meal Pick up Program will continue every Tuesday and Friday from 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. through June 9, 2020. In addition, all BK-8 (Fridays) and grades 9-12 (Tuesdays) instructional learning packets will be available during these same times..
- Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-35 requires all Michigan schools to submit a Continuity of Learning Plan (COL) for approval by the Michigan Department of Education in order to receive full state funding for the 2019-20 school year. Our COL Plan keeps students at the center of educational activities, including outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections, and to help students feel safe and valued. North Branch Area Schools submitted its robust and comprehensive plan on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.
- We acknowledge the last month has been very difficult for our families. We are sharing a link to an article which provides information on how cell phone companies are responding to COVID-19. Many are waiving fees, boosting data allotments, and giving customers other free or reduced rate services. Here is the link: <https://www.reviews.org/mobile/how-cell-phone-companies-are-responding-to-covid-19/>
- This afternoon Governor Gretchen Whitmer extended the Stay at Home Order until April 30, 2020. Based on the district's legal opinion, we will be unable to allow any students in our buildings or on athletic fields until the Stay at Home Order is lifted. We will continue to communicate with our community as we become more informed.

In closing, we wish you and your family the very best. Please follow the CDC guidelines using social distancing and hygiene protocol. Remember, life will get back to normal eventually! #BroncoStrong #ALLIN

Regards,

NB Leadership Team