



## Superintendent Jeff Mohre's Emergency Phone Call Announcement Shared at 8:00pm Today, March 12, 2020

Good evening parents and faculty, this is Superintendent Jeff Mohre and I have a late-breaking message to share with you ... please bear with me as I share the following announcement:

These past few weeks have been challenging for all of us as we have come to learn more about the novel coronavirus. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your concern and communication during this time. I have been in contact with local health officials, the State Department of Education, many superintendents here in Morris County, and the Board of Education in order to arrive at the most responsible decisions and course of action for the students, families and staff with respect to the novel Coronavirus.

I am sorry to have to report that the reaction to the virus rapidly changed in our State today as has the guidance from the CDC and the federal government. Therefore so must our school district's response. We are likely to see many NJ school districts, both locally and across the State, announcing sudden school closures.

Your Washington Township Schools is going to adjust quickly to these rapidly changing circumstances and exercise an over-abundance of caution in response.

As a result, the following school district closing plan is in effect:

1. School will be closed beginning tomorrow, Friday March 13 and Monday, March 16, for the completion of teacher planning as we finalize plans to transition to "At Home Learning" beginning Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. At this time, Faculty and Staff will report to school on both Friday and Monday.
2. Schools will be open from 3pm to 7pm, tomorrow Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> to parents and their children in order to retrieve personal belongings and any instructional materials being prepared by the teachers. In addition, please note that all 8<sup>TH</sup> grade transition meetings will take place tomorrow as planned.
3. Again, "At Home Learning" will begin on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. A separate communication will be issued to parents on the topic of "At Home Learning" tomorrow evening.
4. At this time schools will be closed through Spring Break and an assessment will be made as to whether or not to open on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. School-home communications will continue during the time period.

I know this is a difficult time for our families, faculty, and Nation and I know we will all do our best to reassure and care for our community's children. We will get through this together.

Thank you and take care.