

March 20, 2020

Dear Newark Community High School Families:

I would like to thank you for your support during this e-learning week at NCHS. We are extremely proud of our students and staff who have worked from home during this very difficult and trying time. I am happy to say that the majority of our students logged onto Google Classroom and submitted their attendance response. Many have been working hard all week to submit work to their teachers. Thank you to our teachers who have reached out to our students and provided education and feedback when our students needed assistance.

Now we would like you and your students to take a break from school, rest and relax during our scheduled Spring break from today – March 29. Spend quality time with your family. Reconnect by doing fun family activities. I see people doing some old school things such as puzzles, art projects, playing cards and board games, etc. I also see students and staff creating videos exercising, teaching lessons, and reaching out to their families and friends via technology. Keep up utilizing technology to stay connected as we enter another new phase of this difficult situation.

As I am sure you are aware, the Governor enacted a “stay at home” order effective tomorrow, Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m. through April 7, 2020. At the time of this correspondence, we have not been given any direction from Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) as far as how we will proceed with education, but it is my hope that we will continue to utilize our e-learning opportunities for our students. To clarify, any work the student completes will only HELP or ENHANCE their education and grades at NCHS. This is an opportunity for your student to stay current with their education and make up any past assignments that will raise their grades.

For our senior students and parents, my heart is saddened that your senior year has been so vastly disrupted. Rest assured, we will work with each senior to end this year on a positive note. We ask that you complete all your work and finish your senior year strong. Please stay connected with your friends and family and stay positive! You are a great class with endless potential!

I am extremely proud of our faculty, staff and students this week. Also, I am thankful that you have been very involved in the education of your child(ren) during this difficult time. Please look for further information about our future e-learning opportunities.

Stay connected, safe, and at this time—stay home!

Thank you.

Amy B. Smith  
Superintendent