March 23, 2020

Dear Warren County Public Schools Students and Families:

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the continually changing situation regarding COVID-19 and its impact on schools. Today, Governor Ralph Northam announced that all schools across Virginia will be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Governor Northam noted, this decision was not made lightly and results in many questions for which we do not have answers at this time. The Virginia Department of Education will be providing guidance to local school divisions within the next 24 hours regarding issues such as graduation, course credits, and grades. In addition, new guidance from the U.S. Department of Education will be shared regarding the continuation of learning. As we receive guidance from both the federal and state levels and make decisions regarding our plans to continue educational services, we will make you aware.

On Friday, March 20, you should have received updated information for instruction due to the school closure. Please be on the lookout for additional communications next week regarding the learning opportunities that will be made available to students and how these educational services will be delivered. The initial emphasis is on reinforcing skills and on information that has been taught previously. The second phase of instructional delivery will focus on new skills and new information.

We will continue to offer all children, 18 and younger, free breakfast and lunch at E. Wilson Morrison Elementary School, Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. There are six satellite locations throughout Warren County where meals will be distributed starting Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Information regarding the satellite locations is posted on the Warren County Public Schools website. If you have questions regarding the meal program or for location information, please call (540) 631-0040.

In the meantime, please continue to practice preventive strategies at home, such as avoiding physical contact when greeting, covering coughs and sneezes, frequent handwashing, and social distancing. Thank you for your ongoing support during these challenging times. Please know that we will be here to answer questions and offer assistance in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

Melody Sheppard
Interim Superintendent