

April 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and safe. I would like to thank you for encouraging your child to engage with their teachers and continue with their education. I appreciate how difficult it is to keep them motivated when you also are balancing other family and workplace expectations. Your continued support is needed.

This morning, as you are aware, Governor Wolf ordered the closure of school buildings for the remainder of the academic year. This order was anticipated and the district has worked under this assumption since late March. Our Continuity of Education Plan calls for weekly ENRICHMENT activities for every child and that will continue. ENRICHMENT activities are provided directly from teachers in some cases, and on the **Mountie Learning Moments** web site at www.swasd.org. New activities are posted each Monday morning for the week.

If your child is in grades 5-12, encourage them to review their school email daily for important reminders and new information from teachers, counselors, and principals. For all parents, updates are also posted on the district Facebook page in addition to automated phone calls, text messages, and emails.

Later this spring, we will provide access to the schools for students to retrieve personal items from classrooms and lockers. Until the stay-at-home order is lifted and aggressive social distancing ends, we are not able to permit open access to schools. If you have an urgent need, please email your building principal. Special situations may be accommodated on a case-by-case basis.

For student athletes and our fans, PIAA announced today that spring sports are cancelled. Field equipment will be removed and stored for next year. Stay in contact with your coaches and teammates for important information.

The governor's order today was for school buildings and face-to-face instruction. Education in the Commonwealth and in South Williamsport Area School District continues. We will be here every day doing all that we can to connect with every child. Our academic motto, "Keep Looking and Keep Learning", is appropriate today now more than ever. Your child and their education remain our priority. Join us as we explore new ways to continue that journey with them.

Sincerely,

Mark Stamm

Dr. Mark Stamm

Superintendent of Schools