



## LOSTANT COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 425

315 W 3<sup>rd</sup> Street • Lostant, Illinois 61334  
Phone (815) 368-3392 • Fax (815) 368-3132  
[www.lostantcomets.org](http://www.lostantcomets.org)

March 21, 2020

Dear Parents,

On Friday, March 20th, Governor Pritzker issued an executive order requiring residents to “stay at home” effective Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 pm, through the end of Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. As part of the Governor’s order, he announced that school will remain closed, with a new tentative reopening date of Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. We recognize that this development may raise questions about the impact on students, staff, and families as well as the school’s vital role of providing meals to students and families while schools are closed. We anticipate further guidance and details from the Illinois State Board of Education next week. Superintendents are waiting to find out if these additional days will be considered Act of God days or whether they will be Emergency Days. Emergency days need to be made up at the end of the school year; Act of God days do not.

During this stay at home order, essential school personnel may still report to work. We want you to know the governor’s office has assured school districts that school personnel involved in providing meals will not be in violation of the governor’s executive order and that we can, and should, continue with our program, which has had a tremendous impact in making sure our students are not going hungry while school is closed. If we are not bringing breakfast and/or lunch to your children and you would like meals delivered to your home, please call us. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. We also have the answering machine on and check it every morning at 7:30 a.m. You may leave us a message.

In addition, the governor has made it clear that, while he’s serious about using social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19, he wants residents to still be able to work, shop at grocery stores, put gas in their cars, take walks outside and get medication from the pharmacy. Rest assured, we are committed to doing our best to provide meals and deliver continuity of education. There are many digital programs available so that your children can practice math and reading skills. The teachers, Mr. McLaughlin, and myself will determine how to support your children with additional paper/pencil activities if school remains closed beyond April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Please use this opportunity to focus on staying safe and helping to slow the spread of the virus. As always, thank you for your patience and support as we all work through the COVID-19 Pandemic. As you have seen, this situation is evolving rapidly. As events unfold, we will continue to communicate in a timely and transparent manner. My cell number is 815-440-1290 should you need anything beyond office hours.

Educationally yours,

Dr. Sandra Malahy  
Superintendent  
Lostant School District #425

...where all students are given the opportunity to reach their highest potential.