March 12, 2020

Dear Marple Newtown School District Community,

Our MNSD leadership team continues to monitor the COVID-19 rapidly evolving situation. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. With this new characterization, the Marple Newtown School District will shift levels in the Delaware County Pandemic Action Plan from Monitoring to Postponing. In an effort to practice social distancing beyond the school district’s core academic program, we will be following the recommendations of the action plan by imposing limitations and restrictions. The Delaware County Pandemic Action Plan was revised on March 11, 2020 to reflect consulting with the Pennsylvania Department of Health as new information is being communicated daily. The updated action plan can be found on the District’s COVID-19 webpage.

Operating the District within this Postponing level imposes the following limitations/restrictions, which will take effect as of 5:00p.m. today, March 12, 2020.

All of the below limitations/restrictions are cancelled until further notice.

- All scheduled guest speakers, outside assembly programs, and parent/outside volunteers are not permitted.
- All student field trips, regardless of location are cancelled until further notice.
- In conjunction with PIAA’s press release today, which can be found on our COVID-19 webpage, all athletic events including practices have been suspended.
- All outside groups using MNSD indoor and outdoor facilities and fields are no longer permitted.
- All scheduled events open to the public are cancelled.
- The SAT scheduled for Saturday, March 14th has been cancelled and rescheduled for March 28th.

At 2:00p.m today, Governor Wolf ordered Montgomery County to close all schools for 14 days in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. With the MNSD schools scheduled professional development closings for Friday, March 13, 2020 and Monday, March 16, 2020, students will not be attending school.

Our District continues to closely monitor the situation and take guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the PA Department of Health. Our leadership team continues its partnership with a countywide team as well local law enforcement. A countywide meeting is scheduled for tomorrow in consultation with the PA Secretary of Education, Pedro Rivera, and the PA Department of Health.

The MNSD administration and staff are committed to following our new restrictions and limitations and will continue to communicate any District changes.

We as a school community continue to need to rely on our school community’s partnership. Thank you for working together to protect the well-being of the Marple Newtown school community.

Sincerely,
Tina Kane, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools