



Tuesday, March 17

Dear Central 301 Families and Staff,

As you know, the Governor ordered the State to close all public and private schools and declared these days as “Act of God” days. The school closure days are not counted as instructional days and therefore no student work completed during this time will be graded. The State and the Board of Education have requested that staff make available remote educational opportunities to the greatest extent possible to provide continuous learning opportunities for our students. On Monday, our staff used the day to prepare lessons for remote learning opportunities as a means to assist our students in learning activities that will provide for retention of skills taught and continuity in their education. The material being provided range in scope, based on your child(ren)’s grade level. Resources provided are to help aid in understanding or in reinforcing students’ skills.

This type of instruction is unprecedented and evolving. Depending upon the length of our closure, we may see changes from the State in how we proceed with these types of remote learning opportunities. Some students may not have reliable internet access, or may face other challenges to complete some of these activities. Students will not be penalized for not completing these remote learning opportunities. Just as we cannot mandate, but only encourage staff to provide these resources, we cannot mandate students to complete these learning activities, but do encourage them to do so if possible.

Also, we have received questions regarding parent teacher conferences that were scheduled for Thursday, March 19th. These conferences are canceled and will not occur. Third quarter grades will be shared with families after the staff returns to work on April 6 after Spring Break.

We have had hundreds of staff and over 2200 students log into systems today to access curriculum and we have heard excellent comments about resources that have been provided and the work that our teachers have completed in preparation for this shutdown. The work they accomplished yesterday to launch resources today is incredible. You will find additional resources provided by ISBE in the event you are looking for resources to continue further learning beyond what our teachers voluntarily provide at: www.isbe.net/keeplearning.

If you have problems with your Chromebook, please email devices@central301.net and someone from the Technology Department will reach out via phone or email to assist you.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership with Central District 301.