



# WEST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*"Schools Committed to Excellence"*

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NEIL C. CAVALLARO

*Superintendent of Schools*

March 17, 2020

Dear Staff, Parents, and Guardians,

As promised, I am writing to keep you updated with the latest information I have available regarding the school shut-down, and the direction we're receiving from the State Department of Education.

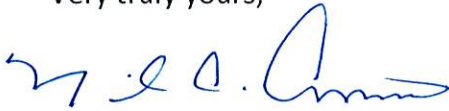
Originally, this district planned on a two week shut-down, and we provided each student with a supplemental learning packet. Those packets were designed to keep students engaged in the short-term (two weeks). While we would like to believe that state-wide school closure will end as originally planned on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we are now in the process of developing a longer-term strategy of distance learning. This will include students communicating with their teacher(s) at planned times during the day, online learning for those students who have access to a computer and the internet, and teachers taking daily attendance. For those families that do not have the technology at home, packets will be made available to them at the meal sites set up at West Haven High School, Bailey Middle School, Carrigan Intermediate School, and Washington Elementary School. More information will be forthcoming, but I wanted you all to be prepared for when we're up and running. Our goal is to be ready by Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, and we will be posting assignments and making them available at two week intervals.

Frankly, given what I've been told by public officials, our local health department, and other area educators, begin to plan for a longer than anticipated closure. While we'll hope for the best, it's certainly better to be prepared.

Please look for more information in the coming days. We will post any news on our website at [whschools.org](http://whschools.org), and I will send you a message via our automated phone system.

Stay healthy, take all the necessary precautions, and as always, don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil C. Cavallaro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Neil C. Cavallaro  
Superintendent of Schools