

**School Closure Update**  
**April 4, 2020**

To All,

On Thursday, April 2, 2020, Governor Holcomb and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Jennifer McCormick announced that schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year due to the fight against COVID-19. In addition, all K-12 schools will deliver remote instruction for the remainder of the school year in order to complete 160 total instructional days or at least 20 more days of remote learning from April 2<sup>nd</sup> until the end of the school year. For Western, since we have continued to provide eLearning and limit the use of our waiver days, we can continue to conduct eLearning three days per week (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays) and meet the 160-day requirement on May 14, 2014. Attached are April's and May's calendars. The Governor's order and information from the Indiana State Board of Education on flexibility of Indiana Graduation Requirements in response to COVID-19 are also attached.

With the Governor's announcement and this message, I know there are several questions that are coming up regarding picking up items from the schools, Prom, graduation, summer school, etc. In the next week, we will continue to provide information on these topics as well as others as we continue to receive updates from the state on the spread of COVID-19.

Additional Information

- Western's buildings will all be secured and locked now through May 1, 2020. Only designated personnel will have access and will be on campus (Central Office Administration, Custodians, and Maintenance).
- Food Deliveries – We will continue to deliver food as indicated on the attached calendars, however we no longer want people coming to our buses or our delivery personnel to get the food. We will leave the food outside of the door to the residence.

I want to continue to emphasize how important it is for our students to stay engaged in the learning process, engaged with their teachers, and complete all of their work. Our students are not only finishing up this year, but are also building the foundation for next year. Under our current plan, we have 18 instructional days left, let's finish strong.

Thanks again to everyone for everything you are doing to help each and every one of us get through this challenging time. We are in this together.

Sincerely,

Randy McCracken