



March 13, 2020 – UPDATE 3

Dear Tipton Families,

As I know you would agree, this is a day that I never fathomed would happen, however, I can honestly say that my heart was truly smiling today as our staff came together, not as a team, but as a family. We talked about the impact this closure has on our students and our families' lives. Some students depend on our school for two meals a day. Some students depend on our teachers for the love and emotional support they need every day. Some students depend on our school as their safe place. Some of our students depend on special education services. All of our students depend on us to help them learn and grow into the successful adults they will be someday and all of our students depend on school to keep structure and normalcy in their lives.

As an entire school family, our entire team is committed to continuing to support our students throughout this school closure. At The Romine Group, we have been working on preparation for this possibility for the last several weeks, despite hoping it would not come to this. I am happy we did start preparing. What it means is that we can and will continue to offer our students support for the next three weeks through remote educational programs.

We will begin providing instructional support in all grade levels from prek-8th grade on Monday. We will also be providing special education services through web-based platforms and those service providers will be reaching out to you to schedule that. If you haven't received invites or instructions from your child's teachers, you will be shortly. They are using multiple electronic programs to provide students academic programming. Some of the programs you and your students are familiar with, some are new to you. Khan Academy is the main one we will be using. Under these circumstances, they opened up their additional programming free to schools to use during this time. With this program, your child's teacher will be using their curriculum standards to select assignments appropriate for their students and there will be instructional videos and explanations to support them. Your child's teacher will be available to help support them with questions through communication systems such as Class Dojo, Google Classroom, and/or Google Meet/Hangouts.

For Preschool, our team has put together activities and plans to help continue the progress they've made this year with our little ones. They have created packets of resources and activities that you can come to pick up on Monday March 16th between 8:00am and 3:00pm at the East Campus main office.

We also realize that in addition to academic, social, and emotional support that some of our families depend on our school based meals and will also need additional food and resource support. As a school, we are exploring our options to provide meal support to our families during this time. Additionally, we have connected with a local food pantry for our families in need. Please reach out to your child's teacher or an administrator privately through dojo or email to let them know of your needs and we will do our best to support you.

Lastly, because the majority of our support relies on your child having access to a smart phone, computer, tablet, or WIFI, if you do not have one of those items accessible to your child, please directly message your child's teacher or an administrator and we will connect with you to provide alternate support. All of the support through the platforms that we have selected should be compatible with your smart phone if you have one.

Our goal is to continue to support all of our students in all the ways that we can because they are important to us and we are all in this together as a family. We encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene and virus prevention practices. The safety and well being of our entire Tipton family has always been our top priority. Thank you for partnering with us to keep all of our students healthy. We will continue to keep you updated with any additional information as it becomes available.

The school will be closed from March 16, 2020 – April 12, 2020 and resume again on April 13, 2020.

As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to the admin team.

Thank you,

Mrs. Angela Gilbert
Superintendent, Tipton Academy