Dear WLCSD Parents:

These are difficult times, and we fully understand your concerns as we have them as well. We continue to be diligent in monitoring local, state, and global information on Coronavirus. We continue to be advised to keep schools open, yet we struggle with the guidance to do so and not have large groups congregate, all while ensuring a safe environment for our children, staff, and families.

We will have school on Friday, March 13 for a full day. We will keep children safe and provide our students with the educational opportunities to which they have been accustomed.

On Monday, March 16 Walled Lake Schools will close for teacher preparation to work on a process to allow our students to access the curriculum in the event of long-term school closures.

Information is changing rapidly and we are in direct contact with state, county, and local officials from education and health sectors.

As you know, Walled Lake Schools has canceled field trips through April 30.

Additional closures/postponements are:
- Kindergarten orientation, Monday, March 16 - postponed TBD
- Shrek Musical - postponed TBD
- PTSA Reflections - cancelled. Certificates and programs to be sent to schools for distribution to participants.
- Concerts - cancelled
- WLW prom organizers are researching alternative dates and venues

Please see the District website calendar where we have designated if an event is canceled, postponed, or TBD. We will be making decisions as the situation unfolds. These decisions are difficult as each event is important.

Athletics: Michigan High School Athletic Association, MHSAA, is suspending all winter sport tournaments indefinitely. There will be no contests until further notice, and they are postponing spring sports until further notice as well. Banquets that are off campus are permitted, as long as parents and coaches wish to attend. All out of season activities, including conditioning and team meetings, are canceled until further notice.

Domestic and International Travel: All international travel and domestic travel that is scheduled to occur prior to the end of April is canceled.

Eventual Closure: While there is no substitute for a classroom, in times like this we must embrace a new reality, hopefully temporarily. The WLCSD Learning Services Department and our teachers and educational professionals are preparing to provide our students online access to the curriculum. We will provide more information about this soon.

Please see this link Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus) A Parent Resource to help you talk to children about this issue.
We know that everyone is concerned about this evolving pandemic and its effects on schools and our everyday lives. This is a special school community, and we are grateful for your patience, flexibility, understanding, and support. We know that, together, we will remain strong and support one another. Please expect more email communication from us in the near future.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Gutman
Superintendent of Schools