



**LANSINGBURGH CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT OFFICE**

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Dr. Antonio W. Abitabile, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Phone: 518-233-6850

March 14, 2020

Dear Lansingburgh Staff, Students and Caregivers,

Superintendents in the Questar III BOCES region of Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene counties decided to cancel all classes effective Wednesday, March 18th until Friday, March 27th out of an abundance of caution. Monday, March 16th and Tuesday, March 17th will continue as normal school days for all staff and students.

Although there are still no confirmed cases in our district, city or county, we are seeking to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to ease public anxiety about schools being in session during this public health crisis. The decision was made after an emergency meeting of superintendents in Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene counties with the local health departments and Questar III BOCES. Our school district will continue to monitor guidance from local, state and federal agencies to reassess and reevaluate whether we may need to extend our closing if conditions worsen.

We understand that this is an inconvenience for our families, but our primary concern is the health and safety of our students and staff. Ultimately, we wanted to be thoughtful about planning and not make a sudden decision that does not allow our families and staff to prepare for what could be a more extended closing. By remaining open for the first two days of the week, it provides our teaching staff with time to prepare instructional materials and resources for students in the event of a longer-term closing. It also allows our students to clean out their lockers and bring home their belongings, instruments and other items.

Our school district is committed to providing educational resources for our students during this time, but we also realize that you cannot replicate the school day for your child. Our administrators are working diligently to develop educational materials that will mitigate the extended leave from our classes.

Thank you for your continued patience and support as we work together through this unprecedented situation. Looking ahead, we anticipate that there will be many questions. We will continue to follow guidance from our health and education departments and will provide additional information as soon as possible. Please continue to follow the CDC's recommendations – including thorough handwashing, social distancing and avoiding large groups and those who are ill – to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Antonio W. Abitabile, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools