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April 30, 2020

Dear LPCSC Parents,

I want to thank all of you for your flexibility, patience, and support over the last few months as we have navigated the COVID-19 crisis together.

This week, we have been monitoring the Indiana Department of Education podcasts and announcements by the governor. We have purposely avoided the temptation of sending out communications immediately following press conferences by the governor because implementation details need to be determined at the local level.

In-between announcements from the state level we have been collaborating with principals, directors, union heads, and other districts as we plan multiple options that would serve our students best for graduation, summer school, summer activities, and the start of the new school year.

A new challenge came this week when the Department of Education clarified that the governor's order in April resulted in all school buildings and grounds being closed through June 30th, or the end of the fiscal school year. This was news to many school leaders across the state who had been planning summer school, graduations, and staffing options with the anticipation that by early June, the statewide social distancing order would be lifted for schools at the same time as it would be for other entities.

Tomorrow is another big announcement by the governor and we will all hear it at the same time. It is possible that the information will include dates and transition parameters for a return to what will be a "new normal" for all of us. When it comes out we will regroup with our administrative team and develop plans for how we carry on serving our students, families, and staff given the parameters. It will be early next week before we respond to tomorrow's announcement as Tuesdays are the day the Indiana Department of Education updates us on their interpretation of new directives and announcements.

Be strong, be patient, be safe.

Mark Francesconi