April 3, 2020

Hello Students and Parents,

I’m writing this letter to update you and share key information.

**Food Deliveries:** Our daily numbers are increasing slightly each day. We now are serving over 500 students each day. We will be continuing this service next week during “spring break.”

**Childcare Coordination:** If your family works in the health care or as an emergency responder and you need help finding childcare please call us 509.687.3140 or email Addie agrageda@manson.org

**School Closure Update:** We have not received any official word from the State that our school closure will be extended beyond April 24th, however like you we’ve heard the Governor share the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” orders have been extended to May 4th. We expect to hear that a school closure extension has also been ordered. We will pass on this information when this comes.

**Spring Break:** Next week is spring break in the Manson (and Chelan) Schools. I suspect parents and families will be “all over the map” in their views on this.

- Some will believe the break should be cancelled given the unusual times we are experiencing
- Some families will welcome the break as the stress of “home schooling” is mounting

Teachers can elect to (but have not been asked to) provide additional work for next week. However, many have tried to give students materials they can continue to utilize next week so parents can continue with routines they’ve developed. I’ve asked our staff to make sure they take some time to get outdoors, clear their heads, and prepare for this next period of time which will be challenging for both families and staff. I am very proud of the efforts all of our staff members are making to rise to the need of our students and community. As educators we are appreciative of both our community’s support and also our State who has insured the “essential” function of educating students will continue.

**Continuous Learning Plan:** I ask you to read through the attached document with your children. It will serve as a guide to both students and teachers in describing expectations for this new way of learning we are creating. An elementary version is currently being completed and we’ll send this out next week. As you can imagine the elementary plan is the most challenging to create given the age of students, less technology experience and the partnership with parents that is required in educating students.

Finally, a word of thanks to our “parent educators.” Trust us when we say we know how difficult your job is 😊 Remember to get outside, breath that fresh air and exercise responsibly. Until next time...

Stay home, stay healthy,

Matt Charlton, Superintendent
Manson School District