



# FANNIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT  
Dr. Michael Gwatney

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March 17, 2020

Dear FCSS Community:

The purpose of this letter is to update you on a change to the information stated in my March 13 letter to the community regarding the duration of our district's closure due to COVID-19. Per an Executive Order issued by Governor Kemp yesterday, **the FCSS will remain closed through the month of March**. Likewise, all after-school activities remain cancelled through March; this also applies to all clubs and sports.

Yesterday's planning day gave our faculty the opportunity to prepare ten additional COLD lessons. With these additional lessons, as well as those already prepared when COLD began, our teachers have enough to continue instruction through March. It is important to maintain communication. Your child's school will be communicating through messages, calls, and social media. Your child's teacher(s) will be keeping office hours; reach out when you have questions or need assistance.

Leaders and other staff members will be on campus, as needed, during March to plan, to facilitate communications with students and stakeholders, to implement meal services, to continue with essential business functions, and to clean. As always, any personnel who are sick should notify their administrator and not report to work. Leaders will ensure that only necessary meetings occur, and these should be in small groups, not large gatherings. In addition, everyone present should make an effort to wash hands frequently and maintain social distancing.

As it has been said recently, this situation is very fluid. It has caused disruption to our schedule and plans. People everywhere are learning new processes, and routines are changing – and they will continue to change. Through it all, though, I remain thankful for our community. I am proud of how people have faced this challenge by pulling together and focusing on helping our children and each other; we are truly blessed in Fannin County! Please know that it is reasonable to expect even more changes, including updates to routines that are newly established. My leadership team and I will continue to share updates as soon as possible.

Be sure to contact your child's school or my office if you have questions. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Michael Gwatney, Ed.D.  
Superintendent