



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SCHOOL CLOSURE EXTENDED

(Easton, MD) Pursuant to the directive given by Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools, during Governor Hogan's April 17 press conference, all Talbot County Public Schools will remain closed through May 15th.

The current TCPS plan for Continuity of Learning will continue. Next week there will be communication to parents about third quarter progress reports and the parameters for grading for the fourth quarter. The TCPS Board will meet on May 20th to determine if any other policies and administrative regulations may need to be waived due to this extended closure.

At this time all scheduled field trips and extracurricular activities will be cancelled for the remainder of the school year. A TCPS graduation committee will be convened to determine the best way to proceed with this well-deserved celebration of accomplishments for the Class of 2020.

"I know this news perpetuates uncertainty for many people in our community," said Dr. Kelly Griffith, Superintendent. "Please understand that student safety must come first, so we ask that you continue to follow CDC guidelines to stay healthy. I have been so impressed with the plan we have in place as well as the engagement we have established with our staff and students," Dr. Griffith added. "We will finish strong this fourth quarter and we will be stronger for it!"

In regards to the school calendar, the TCPS Board of Education has requested the following approvals from the Maryland State Board of Education in order to make up the 10 days of school closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- use the four (4) inclement weather days already built into the calendar
- a waiver of five (5) of the days from MSDE
- an additional waiver to allow Memorial Day to be a school day

If these requests are approved then the last day of school will be June 12 per the approved school calendar.