

MEMORANDUM

From the Office of the Superintendent

TO: Parents/Guardians & Students

DATE: March 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Instructional Time

This morning the Michigan Department of Education published a memo that is now the focus of several social media and news outlet posts. In the memo, MDE explains that *“there is no mechanism to earn instructional time during a period of school closure.”* This statement is causing many to ask why Eau Claire Public Schools, and other districts, are providing educational opportunities to our students online or otherwise.

Our response to this is that Eau Claire Public Schools believes that we have a moral and ethical obligation as educators to educate our students and we will continue to provide meaningful enrichment opportunities for our students during the school closure. The goal in creating remote learning opportunities was and continues to be keeping students in a routine and engaged. We are hopeful that this will support a smooth transition back into school so that we do not lose instructional time getting our students reacclimated once we return.

We are very appreciative of the fact that our staff shares this belief and has worked very hard to provide remote elearning opportunities to our students. So regardless of whether or not minutes count, we ask that you all continue to engage in the enrichment opportunities being offered by our teachers. As information becomes available, I will share it with you.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. #BeaverPride!

Regards,

Ann =)

**Superintendent
Eau Claire Public Schools**

