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2040 West Carpenter Road, Flint, MI 48505 (810) 787-3330

Academy Families,

I wanted to update you on the recent changes to our school calendar. These changes are the result of the Academy's administration working together in the best interest of our school community, and most importantly, our kids. These changes are a proactive effort in order to be prepared for situations we are seeing other school districts across our country experiencing due to the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

This Friday, March 13th, we will not have school. March 13th will be a Professional Development for all teachers. During this time, we will be setting up virtual learning platforms and providing learning opportunities to our teaching staff on best practices when it comes to virtual learning. Please know there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Flint or Genesee County and we do not intend to close school at this time. This is a proactive strategy to be prepared if we must shut down in the future, as other school districts have done across the country. We want to be ready to provide an education to our students in or out of our facilities.

Governor Whitmer reported last night that there are now two positive cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Michigan. One in Oakland County and one in Wayne County. Many universities and colleges are moving to a virtual platform and the CDC has made recommendations to limit events that bring in large crowds. The Academy is committed to working with our families to continue "business as usual", while preparing for any necessary changes that the future may hold. To reiterate the important precautionary steps we can all take to maintain a safe learning environment please continue to:

- Keep your child home if they are sick or showing symptoms of influenza, and advise others to do the same.
- Always cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue or sleeve.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and warm water are not available.

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- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

**Correy Black, MPH, ES**

Principal

The New Standard Academy

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