



## BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL

PHONE 618/439-3103

511 East Main Street  
BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812

[www.bentonhighschool.org](http://www.bentonhighschool.org)

FAX 618/438-2915

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Dear Parents and Community Members:

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and well. On Friday, April 17, Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker announced that remote learning in Illinois will be extended through the end of the 2019-20 school year.

Although in-person learning has been suspended for the remainder of the year, at BCHS, I assure you our entire staff remains committed to learning and engaging with all students through remote learning, as well as continuing with our food distribution program.

Like you, we are saddened by the reality that our school community will not be able to reconvene in person this school year due to this public health crisis. So many of you have worked so hard to learn and grow in both the classroom and in extracurricular activities that today's announcement may feel like a step back.

However, the final chapter of this school year hasn't been written yet. These past few weeks have proven our school community is more resilient, more capable and more compassionate than maybe what we previously realized. I'm confident our collective strength will shine through during the remainder of the school year, and we will emerge even stronger.

Having said that, Friday's announcement will result in significant and multiple scheduling changes in our district. It will take us a few days to sort out the many schedule details that are on the books, including spring concerts, graduation, etc. Please be patient as we work to get information to you in the next several weeks.

I know this is not the school year that any of us imagined, but I want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we have dealt with this unprecedented situation together. This period of Remote Learning offers us new ways to learn and grow, and out of this Pandemic, we will emerge stronger. Plans will be underway soon for the return to in-person learning next school year.

It's important we continue to work together and support our students. I can't thank you enough for all that you are doing as we all work together through this.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Johnson  
Superintendent