



Dr. Stu Cameron
Superintendent

IMLAY CITY SCHOOLS
634 W. Borland Road
Imlay City, MI 48444
(810) 724-2765
www.icschools.us

March 18, 2021

Dear Spartan Families:

I hope that this communication finds you and your families well. The purpose of this letter is to communicate to you a small change in the districts' instructional programming schedule. **The Imlay City Schools will be closed on Friday, March 26, 2021. No instructional programming will take place on that day.** This cancellation will not result in the need to extend the school calendar.

A large number of Imlay City Schools' faculty and staff have been participating in COVID-19 vaccine clinics over the course of the last five weeks, receiving their first and second doses of the Moderna vaccine. Understanding that mild to more moderate adverse reactions to second dose vaccinations are likely, we have done our best to try to distribute our faculty and staff across different vaccination schedules. However, we *are* subject to the schedule provided to us by the county as the vaccination appointments have been made available to ICS. On Thursday, March 25, approximately 70 members of our faculty and staff from across all departments and buildings will receive second doses of the vaccine. Fifty-three (53) of these individuals are directly responsible for instruction.

Over the last 3-4 weeks, we have been monitoring post-vaccination reactions and attendance patterns of staff who have received second dose vaccinations - both here in ICS and in other districts. We have been communicating with health officials about what we might expect. We have also been tracking the current availability of substitute teachers at this time. Increased staff absences across the county due to COVID-19, and fewer registered substitutes in general, have led to a substitute shortage experienced daily by all county schools. *As a result, we anticipate subsequent staff and substitute shortages that would prevent us from fulfilling teaching, transportation, food service, and instructional support services on the day following the Thursday clinic.*

Given all of these factors, **we are proactively cancelling school on Friday, the 26th.** We believe this will prevent an inevitable short-notice emergency closure that morning that would not allow families adequate time to plan for child care, and make other arrangements as needed for their children. Please know that this decision was not made lightly; much thought and consideration was given in determining this action.

We continue to deeply appreciate your support, patience, flexibility, and understanding as we continue to navigate the challenges the pandemic has presented us. I feel certain that better days are on the horizon.

Dr. Stu Cameron



Imlay City High School has been selected as one of America's Best High Schools in the United States and awarded a Bronze medal by *U.S. News & World Report*, the nation's leading source of news analysis and service journalism. Imlay City High School is a three-time recipient of the award, having been named one of America's Best in 2007, 2013, and again in 2018.