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February 17, 2021

Dear TLS parents,

This letter echoes what was sent out in an email last Friday. It has been updated with the most recent information about the snow days that we have missed since last Friday. Any changes will be noted with *italics*.

I hope everyone had a wonderful long weekend ahead. We are over a halfway through this year. We have missed some days, because of fog, ice, snow, and a virus. I just wanted to explain the situation of how many instructional hours that we scheduled, are required, and have lost to CoVID and Ohio weather this year.

At the beginning of the year, we scheduled for 1088 hours of instruction. Our 7th & 8th graders are required to have 1001 hours of instruction throughout the school year. As of February 17th, we have lost 80 hours of instruction due to cancelling classes due to COVID or Ohio weather problems. That would leave us only 1 day before we have to start making time up. Thankfully, we already added an extra day of instruction at the end of January. That brings us up to 2 days.

For many, you have grown up in Hancock County, you know that just because we get through the rest of the winter, that does not mean we are not out of a threat of losing days due to weather. We could have delays or cancellation due to fog. That's why our Board of Education has approved to add a few days, so that we don't have to extend the school year after Memorial Day weekend.

First, we will have a full day on March 5th. It was a half day, because our basketball team was scheduled to play in a tournament up in Michigan. That tournament has been cancelled. So we have extended the day to a full day. That gives us an additional two hours.

Second, we will have school on March 8th. That day was scheduled to be an in-service day for the Faculty. The Faculty has already had two in-service days this year, so March 8th would not have counted for any instructional hours, so we have decided to have a regular school day. That will get us one full day.

Third, *April 5th (Easter Monday) will also be a school day.* That will get us another full day of school.



Our Mission:

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to glorify our Triune God as we train, strengthen and nurture ourselves and others through His Word and Sacraments, so that we are able by His love to live lives of faith and to bring the Good news of Jesus Christ to all people.



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Fourth, April 30 will be a full day of school for every grade in the school. It was supposed to be a Track & Field Day for the schools in Ohio. Unfortunately, this was already counted for hours, because it was our co-curricular day with other schools, so this does not give us any additional hours to make up for other lost hours.

Finally, May 7th will be a full day of school. This was supposed to be a track & field day in Michigan, but it has been cancelled. This will give us another day of learning.

With the changes that the Board of Education has made, we will have *5 days and 2 hours* of extra learning. Lord willing, this should give us plenty of time to work with as we navigate the winter and spring weather in our corner of the world. Even should we not need all those days, your children will appreciate the extra time they have learning with their friends and teachers. Please change these days in your calendars. We will do our best to remind you via our weekly newsletters, email, and the Remind app. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email pastormattn@gmail.com.

Serving Christ for you,
Pastor Matt Nowak



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