April 3, 2020

Dear Steel Valley Community,

With Gov. Wolf having closed all schools in Pennsylvania indefinitely, we are moving forward with remote learning. Students should be completing their Flexible Instruction Day (FID) #3 – 5 packets this week, and they should be communicating with their teachers within Google Classroom. During this unprecedented pandemic, maintaining student learning is important, but maybe even more important is supporting our families. We know that some, or perhaps many, of our families are being hit hard, and we want to help.

I am pleased to announce that we are creating the Steel Valley Family Support Program. UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, with volunteer graduate students from the University of Pittsburgh, will be reaching out to our families through weekly phone calls. The volunteers will ask parents how their children are doing with their learning, and they will also ask how the family is coping with the stay-at-home order. The volunteers will have information on many different resources that are available. For families with specific needs, we have guidance counselors and success coaches ready to assist. The Allegheny County Department of Human Services is also partnering with us in this effort and providing the full range of their support services.

Our volunteers will call from the following phone number: 412-464-3673. Please accept their calls. If all is well for you right now, that’s great- let us know. Nobody knows how long this pandemic might last, and none of us can predict how the long-term stress is going to impact our children. If your family needs help, or if you are concerned about your child, the sooner you get assistance the better. Right now, we all are one big, extended Ironmen Family, and we are here to support you!

Sincerely,

Edward Wehrer
Superintendent