



*Delivering Extraordinary Value to Families*

## **Steel Valley School District**

**District Administrative Offices**

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*Edward Wehrer  
Superintendent*

December 8, 2020

Dear Steel Valley Families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are well. As you may be aware, over the last several weeks, the number of COVID cases has dramatically increased in our region, in Allegheny County and in our own community. Since November 23, Steel Valley students have received remote instruction in an effort to protect the health and safety of our entire district. Earlier this week, the Steel Valley Board of School Directors and administration discussed at length the impact that the virus has had upon our community and our immediate plans for our students' education.

In light of the increasing numbers of COVID cases, the Steel Valley School District will continue to follow its remote learning model through January 22, 2021, which is the last day of the second nine-week grading period. All students and staff will follow their current schedule of classes. District extracurricular activities, including athletic practices and contests, are postponed and hopefully will be able to be rescheduled. Families are encouraged to take advantage of the district's resources, including after school tutoring and meal distribution. As always, our teachers, principals and caring staff are just a phone call away.

Please know that these decisions are difficult to make and that Steel Valley board members and administrators keenly understand the stress that uncertainty presents for our students and their families. For the safety of all involved, we find it necessary to evaluate regularly what is happening with the pandemic; we hope that the community understands our rationale.

Nevertheless, I am optimistic about the news that COVID vaccines soon will be approved. If we work together- which is what Ironmen do!- then we will get through these times even stronger than we were in March. In the meantime, I urge you to continue to help contain the spread of the virus and to practice mitigation efforts. Remember to wear a mask, wash your hands often and practice physical distancing. While it may be difficult, please refrain from gatherings over the holidays and follow the guidance of our public health officials.

If you have any questions, please contact the Steel Valley School District at 412-464-3600. Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Edward Wehrer  
Superintendent