March 13, 2020

Dear SAU 21 Families and Employees:

In consultation with our school leaders and other SAUs in our region and throughout the state, we have elected to enact a proactive closure for all SAU 21 schools for a minimum period of two (2) weeks, effective at the close of school today. This closure will remain in effect at least until Friday, March 27, 2020.

I will be sending more specific information to you in a letter this weekend, including how we will deliver instruction for students, provision of meals, availability of technology, and access to student supports. We believe that by proactively closing our schools it will assist the public health agencies and healthcare professionals by slowing the spread of the virus. We also believe in the research and science of social distancing and non-pharmaceutical interventions such as school closures as available data demonstrate a high level of effectiveness. We believe it is our ethical responsibility to assist our local and state public health officials with their mission.

We will continue to evaluate the closure duration with our partners and keep you informed throughout the process. I know that this closure places a significant strain on many families' abilities to manage childcare and other associated issues, and we will continue to work on solutions to assist you with the school-related issues that the coming weeks may bring.

Sincerely,

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools