March 13, 2020

Dear administrator,

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

At this time, several states and communities have announced a suspension of school-based instruction starting next week due to the Coronavirus and will remain suspended for multiple weeks. I have non-official sources that tell me that the Minnesota Department of Health is preparing to do the same sometime next week, possibly as early as Monday. It would be prudent to finalize your plan, how you will communicate it, and prepare your teachers so that you are ready to immediately act when the State makes an announcement.

Notice I used the term "suspension of school-based instruction." This does allow for virtual / eLearning ways of operating a school.

As always, we are here to support you and your ministry. If we can be of further assistance or if you have additional questions, please reach out to us.

Peace in Jesus,

Sean Martens
Assistant to the President for Education

Minnesota South District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod