



# Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools

160 South Hamilton Road Gahanna, OH 43230 (614) 471-7065 [www.GahannaSchools.org](http://www.GahannaSchools.org)

July 30, 2020

To our Gahanna-Jefferson Schools community,

We understand how challenging these times are, and we appreciate your continued patience as we learn more about what is necessary for our school health and safety plans during the COVID-19 pandemic. As we recently shared with you, Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) met with school district leaders in our county earlier this week to discuss continuing concerns about COVID-19.

Yesterday, all Franklin County school districts received a letter from FCPH Director Joe Mazzola with more specific details about their guidance for central Ohio schools. Much of their recommendations we've already begun to plan for, including [starting the year with 100% distance learning](#), until FCPH determines a hybrid learning model may be safe to implement.

In the letter we received yesterday, FCPH also provided guidance for athletic and extracurricular activities. Regrettably, they have recommended that these activities be discontinued during the time districts are suspending in-school learning.

Their guidance is as follows: *"FCPH also recommends schools discontinue extracurricular activities such as sports, band and other activities during the period of remote learning."* You can [read the full letter here](#).

As a district, we will follow the guidance from FCPH, **suspending all athletic, band and extracurricular activities effective at the end of the day today, July 30, 2020**. We intend to seek further guidance on this recommendation and to explore ways we may be able to maintain connection and continuity for these groups so that when we are able to return, the transition back will be smoother. We will share more information as we have it available.

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to navigate this very difficult situation.

Sincerely,

Steve Barrett  
Superintendent