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**Ronald J. Tucker, Ed.S.**

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March 15, 2020

Dear Bayless School District School Community,

This evening, an important press release was shared with local news media. The news release was written in collaboration with the St. Louis City, all County Public School Districts, the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and with the strong recommendation of the St. Louis County Health Department, announcing the joint decision to close school beginning Wednesday, March 18, through until at least April 3, 2020.

This action is not in response to any known case of COVID 19 (Coronavirus) in our schools, but rather out of an abundance of caution and care for the health of our students, faculty, staff and at-large community.

As we communicated last week, Bayless planned for this possibility prior to dismissing for this week's Spring Break. We will provide additional information in the coming days regarding how our students will be able to continue receiving instruction by accessing alternative learning plans and *e-learning* provided by their teachers beginning the week of Monday, March 23.

The full copy of the press release is available [HERE](#).

My prior correspondence is available [HERE](#).

Our goal is always to protect the safety, health, and wellness of our students, staff, and families. Our strength as a community is our greatest asset. In making this decision, we are working together to protect each other and slow the progression of COVID-19.

We will continue to remain in contact with public health officials, elected leaders, and neighboring school districts and keep parents and media updated with new information as it becomes available. We thank our Bayless school community for its support and partnership in this effort.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Tucker