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**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2020 11:31 AM

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**Subject:** Sunday Update

Dear LSC Campus Community:

As you may have heard, Governor Walz announced today (Sunday) that he is ordering the closure of all K-12 schools by Wednesday March 18. This may impact our planning week for alternatives for our college students (March 16-20) in that many folks with school age children will have certain challenges.

Let me assure you we will follow all of the recommendations from the state, our union contracts, and the Minnesota State system offices. No one will be disadvantaged by the closures and, with your help and creativity, by the end of next week we will have long-term strategies in place.

We expect that Monday will be a very busy workday, with planning going on as well as mentoring each other, making alternative plans for the school closures, identifying alternatives to large meetings up to and including commencement. We will also address those community members and students who have been traveling in Level 3 areas and will follow the guidance from health officials. And we will provide clear direction for all students returning to classes on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, who will be attending in various distance modalities or in limited face-to-face interactions.

For campus employees, please understand that for now the easiest way to handle this rapidly changing situation is, IN THE SHORT TERM, to follow our existing procedures and processes for leave requests, absences, and illnesses. We have these established practices in place to handle any situation for Monday's workday. We are spending next week planning for THE LONG TERM. Long term planning includes all of the recommended measures for alternative teaching, alternatives for meetings such as Zoom or other media, exploring appropriate work from home scenarios, staggering schedules, etc.

I am asking constituency leadership to truly share in handling this situation along with LSC administration in the very best example of shared governance. We will all work together and keep each other informed over the next few days to help the LSC community make this transition to alternative teaching, learning, serving, and supporting our students and each other. I know our entire LSC community has the talent, creativity, and dedication to students and each other to ensure that our plans are successful.

More specific details and plans will be posted to our website <https://www.lsc.edu/coronavirus/> as soon as possible.

I thank you all for your willingness to step up and be flexible, nimble, and creative in this historic moment. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to mentor colleagues and to help identify innovative solutions. You are already clearly demonstrating why Lake Superior College is among the best in the state and region.

Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.

President



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