



# Denmark Technical College

*From the Desk of the President*

Dear Denmark Technical College Family,

As many of you may know, in light of the continuing spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in our State and out of an abundance of caution to safeguard the public health, Governor McMaster has directed the closure of all public institutions of higher education in the State effective Monday, March 16, 2020, and lasting through Tuesday, March 31, 2020, unless such directive is otherwise modified, amended, extended, or rescinded. The Governor's Executive Order No. 2020-09 is attached for your review and information.

These two weeks will allow time for Denmark Technical College to test our business continuity plan and online instruction module and for the President's Cabinet to continue to assess the current situation regarding coronavirus (COVID-19) in our service area.

Please note that included in the Executive Order is authority extended to me as President of the College to require personnel designated as essential, or whose presence is otherwise deemed necessary, to be excluded from this Order. Consequently, Public Safety Officers, Parking Enforcement Officers (Gate and Patrolling), and Residence Hall Supervisors (at least for the next two days), and members of the President's Cabinet will be required to work as previously scheduled or based on a modified schedule. Any scheduled changes for essential personnel will be communicated by the respective Vice President or Associate Vice President, with Presidential approval.

Additionally, the Executive Order allows flexibility to the College to make any necessary and appropriate decisions or arrangements to account for local needs and other unique circumstances, to include establishing or maintaining means to deliver virtual instruction and remote learning, make needed repairs to facilities, and to prepare for upcoming time-sensitive documents to include SACSCOC, the Strategic Plan, etc.

I am convening the President's Cabinet tomorrow morning to begin discussions around our path forward in the current environment. These discussions will be about the potential of having faculty and staff participate in Zoom conferencing, professional learning to administer online learning, discuss and plan for the impact of our state closure, and lastly, to ensure we are prepared to return to full operations at the earliest possible time.

Please know that any decisions made regarding College operations will be made in full consideration of both our employees and our students.

I pray that you and your family as well as we traverse through these uncertain times. I appreciate each of you and know that you understand that our current circumstances will likely require that we all perform some work-related tasks during these two weeks.

Forging onward!

Willie L. Todd, Jr., Ph.D.  
President and CEO