Unemployment Benefits Q & A

Am I eligible for Unemployment benefits?
- If you are an employee of the WISD, you are not eligible.
- If you are no longer an employee, it depends. You may be eligible if it was deemed necessary to reduce the workforce based on lack of work due to this National Emergency.
- The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency handles unemployment compensation and makes determinations regarding eligibility.

If I am unemployed and file for unemployment benefits, do I have to look for work?
- The WISD can request a waiver from the registration for and seeking work requirements due to lack of work as a result of this National Emergency (COVID-19).

What is the current weekly unemployment benefit?
- A maximum of $362 a week.

If the U.S. Senate passes the stimulus package currently before them, what will that mean for unemployment benefits?
- If passed, and you have been laid off due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, you may be eligible for an additional $600.00 (paid by the federal government) per week added to your regular unemployment benefit. However, since the final details of this package have not been made public, there may be some limitations and adjustments not presently reported.

When will this additional benefit go into effect?
- This stimulus package has not been approved by the U.S. Senate, and the unemployment portion mentioned here is what has been released in a broad outline of the package. If approved, a more definitive answer should be available.

Am I eligible to receive the additional $600 from the federal government if the amount of the Michigan unemployment benefit (maximum of $362 per week) and the $600.00 is more than I normally would make in my regular paycheck per week?
- It is likely many individuals will be receiving more in unemployment benefits than they would if they were working full time and earning a wage. However, since the final details of this package have not been made public, there may be some limitations and adjustments not presently reported.