



School Closure Update - March 15, 2020

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Dear School Community Members,

I hope this message finds you well, having enjoyed the weekend. Last week was certainly a challenging one and I anticipate that we may have some long days and weeks ahead. Despite the various published accounts of impending school closures being directed by State and local elected officials, we are awaiting guidance and official action from them to inform our local planning and communications. It is always hard to wait for information and clarity, but we need to be cautious and careful that we act in accordance with a variety of requirements for school closures of any kind. While at this moment we don't have details about how many days we will be closed after Tuesday, we anticipate a longer closing and ask that you begin to prepare.

As we recommended in Friday's communication, it is prudent that we all prepare for long-term closures and here at the District have been doing just that. We have developed plans with our food service provider to provide breakfast and lunch to those that need it. Additionally, our teachers are continuing to prepare to support student learning during a long-term closure. Communication on both school-sponsored meals and student learning will be sent in the coming days.

It is also important for parents to think about what "social distancing" means for families, children, and adolescents while not in school. This is going to be a challenge for many of us since our natural inclination is for our children and their friends to spend time together.

Please consider the message I posted on Facebook yesterday:

Social-Distancing as a Priority

The District recommends social-distancing while our students are out of school. While the District doesn't control what happens outside of school, we recommend that families practice appropriate social-distancing, keep student and adult interactions to small groups and for everyone to practice good cold and flu hygiene as well as proper hand washing etiquette. Such preventative measures are most effective if we embrace and implement them as a community.

I sincerely appreciate your patience and support as we await the necessary guidance from State and local officials regarding the closure of our schools. Once in receipt of this guidance, we will provide an update on the specific plans for our school community.

My best wishes for a pleasant evening,

Kris

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