



Thursday, April 9, 2020

**This communication supersedes all previous communication.**

West York Area School District Community:

I hope this communication finds you and your families not only safe and healthy, but also finding new and creative ways to cope with the stay at home order. I'd like to share what's been happening in the District this week, what we're looking forward to, and some reminders.

This communication, as previous ones, are posted to the District's [COVID-19 Webpage](#) and are intended to supersede prior releases. All prior communications have been archived on the same web page for future reference.

**Re-cap of the week of April 6-9, 2020:**

- **Monday, April 6, 2020**, all students began receiving communication from their teachers. This communication included feedback and guidance on work they have been doing at home. Teachers have also started to share what the next steps will look like with regard to instruction. Should you need to reach out to your child's teacher, you may find a complete staff list, by building, [here](#).
- **Thursday, April 9, 2020**, Governor Wolf [extended the school closure](#) for the remainder of the academic (2019-20) school year. What this means for West York is that we will continue with our plan to provide online, remote learning for our students. There are many other factors that play into this decision, and many of those are building/grade specific. **Please refer to each school's home page for more information pertaining to each level.**
- Also, on **Thursday, April 9, 2020**, PIAA, in reaction to Governor Wolf's closure of all schools for the remainder of the academic school year, issued a [press release](#) announcing the cancellation of the winter and spring sports and championships.

This past week, we had Chromebook pick up available at the Middle School during lunch for any student who did not receive their Chromebook during the previously scheduled dates/times.

**Looking ahead:**

- I want everyone to know that we understand that each family is facing unique challenges, and due to these extraordinary circumstances, the District will strive to be flexible in our understanding and approach to these challenges during this time. Further, while we do expect that each student will attend lessons and work to the best of his or her ability, please know that our priority for Distance Learning throughout the closure is that students will not be penalized for circumstances beyond their control.
- We know that many families are concerned with their child moving to the next grade or graduating. PDE spells out the guidance for this on their [website](#). Specific to graduation, PDE states that

- *LEAs are responsible to ensure that the students anticipated to graduate in Spring 2020 graduate on time. No student should be restricted from completing their high school graduation requirements or pursuit of a post-secondary pathway due to the pandemic of 2020.*

What this means is that seniors who are on track to graduate will graduate in June as planned. We will also ensure that all West York students have the tools, guidance, and support they need to successfully stay on a path to advance to the next grade in the 2020-21 school year.

- In addition to this communication today, principals will be sharing information specific to the students in their building about what the online learning will look like beginning Tuesday, April 14, 2020. **Please read all communication specific to your child's building. If you have children in more than one building, please read each building-specific communication as each may have unique information.**

**Principal messages may be found on the following building pages:**

[High School](#)      [Middle School](#)  
[Trimmer Elementary](#)   [Lincolnway Elementary](#)      [Wallace Elementary](#)

- Our School Board meetings will continue as planned, albeit in an online format. Please visit our [website](#) to learn how you may attend these virtual meetings and offer public comment, if desired. The next meeting will be our Work Session, and that will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will also be live-streamed on our [YouTube](#) channel.
- We have no plans to change the 2019-20 District calendar at this time. April 13 remains a non-instructional day for students.
- As allowed by the essential services clause in Governor Wolf's Stay at Home Order, our student nutrition department continues to offer a "drive-thru" meal pick up at the Middle School from 11-Noon each weekday for anyone under the age of 18. Information about meal distribution during the school closure can be found on our [website](#) and communicated through social media. Kudos to the student nutrition services for this amazing service to the community!

### **Reminders:**

- All District buildings and grounds (including fields and playgrounds) are closed to all but essential personnel. Please respect the barriers placed at these locations as they are there for the protection of our community.
- All evening, weekend, extra-curricular, and District rentals are canceled or postponed until further notice.
- A Google online [form](#) where District families and community members may pose questions to us regarding the closure is open for submissions. Our response to the questions we received can be found on this [page](#).
- We continue to positively engage our students and community through online resources and social media during the closure.
  - [Twitter Link](#)
  - [Facebook Link](#)
  - [Activities for families and students](#)
- The weekly Blue & White is still published at the end of each week and delivered via email.

- Please continue to look for communication and updates from the District through Blackboard, our [website](#), and social media.

**Of note:**

- We were approached by Wellspan during the past week to see if we had any supplies in stock that we could donate to help them as they face higher than usual needs. I'm pleased to say that we were able to donate several items to include tissues, toilet tissue, gloves, and cleaning supplies. We have received much support from our community, and we were happy to be able to give back in this small way.

While our physical buildings are closed, our primary focus remains providing the best possible educational experience for our students. Administrators, faculty, and staff have been doing everything within their power to prepare and deliver complete instruction. I appreciate the cooperation, support, and patience of the community while we work through a situation that none of us could have ever imagined.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

**Todd M. Davies**  
Superintendent