



Waterford Township
School District

Brenda Harring, EdD/CI
Superintendent

Daniel J. Fox, CPA
Assistant Superintendent for Business

Julie C. Lyons
Director of Elementary Education

March 10, 2020

As you may know, 15 New Jersey individuals have tested positive for COVID-19, including one person in Camden County. There are no known confirmed cases in our school district. With information changing frequently, we are committed to keeping our school community informed as new information becomes available.

Last week, the New Jersey Department of Education asked districts to create plans for alternative learning in the event that we need to close school for an extended period of time. As part of our plan, the district has created a three-week unit of study to allow instruction to continue remotely. We will post all plans on our district website under our COVID-19 Preparation section once they are finalized. Our teachers have created plans that blend virtual learning experiences and more traditional learning experiences to accommodate families with limited access to technology.

Below are frequently asked questions that came up in our recent parent survey:

1. What prompted the survey about the internet and devices?

The district is required to ensure equitable services to the student population in the event of health-related school closing. If the school can prove equitable and adequate instruction occurred during a mandated school closing, the closing will count towards its 180 day requirement.

2. Will parents/staff be given ample warning of a closure due to a confirmed case of coronavirus?

Due to this rapidly changing situation, it is possible that our schools may be directed by health department officials to close on short notice if there is a confirmed case involving a student or staff member in our district. If our schools close, the Just Kids program will not operate. It is recommended that parents consider back-up childcare options in the event of an unexpected closure.

As Waterford Township School District continues our normal operations, we remind everyone to practice good hygiene which includes:

- Washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, multiple times throughout the day
- Refraining from sharing personal items like drinks, food, or unwashed utensils
- Covering coughs and sneezes with tissues. If tissues are unavailable, use the elbow, arm or sleeve.
- Not sending children to school if they are sick. Our school nurses will be closely monitoring student health. Sick children should stay home for at least 24 hours after the cessation of symptoms or the absence of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medication.

We appreciate your cooperation as we continue to monitor the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in New Jersey. If you have specific concerns, please contact the school nurse in your student's building.

Respectfully,
Dr. Harring
Superintendent of Schools