

March 15, 2020

Dear Muncy Family,

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update related to Governor Wolf's closure of schools effective beginning Monday, March 16th. First, we would like to make you aware of the guidance we are receiving from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) related to the anticipated two-week closure. Second, we would like to let you know what actions we are taking in response to PDE's recently received guidance. Lastly, we would like to provide you with an opportunity to ask questions so we can work to respond to the needs of our families.

As stated in Friday's OneCall® message, all schools will be closed for 10 business days beginning March 16th, 2020 through March 27th, 2020. Furthermore, all athletic and extracurricular activities and events during this two-week period are also cancelled or postponed at this time. All meetings (i.e. IEP/GIEP meetings, meetings with teachers, etc.) will be rescheduled once we reopen. If determined necessary to meet certain IEP/GIEP requirements, a meeting may be held by phone or through an alternative platform.

During this time, PDE is asking school districts to reduce the total number of staff in each of their buildings. As a result of this staff reduction, the best method for communication with the school during this time will be through e-mail. If you contact us by phone and no one is in the office to answer your call, please leave a voicemail and we will return your call.

On Monday, March 16th, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. our offices will be open for parents to pick up prescriptions or other essential items. Please contact the office ahead of time to let them know what you need to pick up and approximately what time you expect to pick it up so someone can meet you at the door.

Additional guidance from PDE states that no school district will be penalized if it fails to meet the 180 day or school hour requirements. Based on this guidance, our teachers will be 'working from home' to provide resources for both enrichment opportunities and skills reinforcement. All teachers will work through their previously established methods for communication with the home (e.g., teacher website, e-mail, Remind®, Class Do-Jo® etc.). Furthermore, we are hopeful this instructional requirement waiver might allow us to maintain our current school district academic calendar for the 2019-2020 school year. If changes to the calendar are necessary, we will provide notification in a timely manner.

The state's decision to reevaluate whether or not continual closure is needed at the end of ten (10) business days may require the development of a more long-term solution. Currently, PDE is in the process of issuing guidance to schools related to 'contingency of learning plans'. Therefore, we will be collaborating with our teachers to design such plans in case of prolonged closures.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture will allow eligible schools to serve free meals to all students in a drive-through format during the closure. Although we are still waiting to hear from the state on the status of our application, Muncy School District invites families and caregivers to pick up meals for their children beginning on Tuesday, March 17th and until school resumes. These meals are available to any child age 18 and younger. Lunch and breakfast for the following day will be provided on a first come, first served basis. **Children must be present for meals to be provided. Please see the attached flyer for more details.**

Meals for both high school students and elementary school students will be distributed on weekdays using the bus lanes at the front of the Ward L. Myers Elementary School building as a drive through between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Families who are unable to pick up the meals should contact the food service department at 570-546-3125 ext.1120 or tkuntz@muncysd.org as soon as possible. We are also working at identifying other resources, including local businesses and restaurants, who might be interested in helping, in case the times and location do not work for all.

We will continue to post these types of communications and similar notifications to the school district's webpage for your reference. Additionally, the Muncy School District App and PowerSchool® may be utilized to send out additional district notifications. If you need help with where to find the information on the district's website or downloading the Muncy School District App or PowerSchool® App please let us know.

As I know this letter will inevitably create more questions than answers and we are still awaiting further guidance from PDE, please forward your questions to the individuals listed below. We will work as quickly as possible to answer individual inquiries and look to answer frequently asked questions in future updates.

1. For high school related questions and concerns, please contact Nicole Edwards at nedwards@muncysd.org or 570-546-3125 ext. 3220
2. For elementary school related questions and concerns, please contact Vickie Conner at vconner@muncysd.org or 570-546-3125 ext. 1100
3. For special education related questions and concerns, please contact Cheryl Good at cgood@muncysd.org or 570-546-3125 ext. 1250
4. For food service related questions and concerns, please contact Tom Kuntz at tkuntz@muncysd.org or 570-546-3125 ext. 1120

We wish everyone the best over the next two weeks, and we are grateful for the support of our community through these difficult and unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

Craig

Craig R. Skaluba, Ph.D.
Superintendent

E-mail Confidentiality Statement: Any opinions expressed in the e-mail message you have received are those of the individual and not necessarily of Muncy School District. The e-mail message, and any files attached with it, should be regarded as confidential information, intended only for the use of the recipient(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering the message content to the intended recipient, be advised that you have received this e-mail in error and that any onward transmission is strictly prohibited and should be deleted immediately, including any backups and temporary files. If you have received this e-mail in error please notify lkneedler@muncysd.org. We automatically monitor all inbound/outbound e-mails for viruses, profanity, offensive language, racist and/or sexual comments, virus hoaxes, chain-mail, and known spam mailers. Muncy School District reserves the right to intercept, store, archive, delete or view such e-mail for security/audit purposes and, where necessary, instigate appropriate proceedings against the parties involved. Please note that just as with all regular postal letters sent to the district or receipt of other documents, all e-mails sent to Muncy School District, its employees, and its students may be subject to Pennsylvania's Right to Know Law.