

7:15 p.m.

March 12, 2020

Dear Key Communicators:

The Governor has announced that out of an abundance of caution to help prevent community spread of COVID-19, all schools in Kentucky will be closed beginning March 16 and will not reopen until April 6, 2020. This decision is not in response to a specific public health threat in our schools, but is an action to implement social distancing statewide.

As we have shared with you previously, Fayette County Public Schools has been preparing for this possibility. In order to ensure our supports are in place, we encourage all students to attend school tomorrow. By being at school, they will receive another day of instruction, and come home with all the information they need about educational expectations while schools are out and how food will be disseminated throughout our community.

To support our families while children are at home, we have developed materials with ideas to help with fun and learning. To ensure that our children are engaged in learning while schools are closed, we have also gathered instructional resources – online and on paper – that are appropriate for students at different grade levels.

Knowing that food insecurity is a reality for many families, we have developed a plan to provide breakfast and lunch for anyone 18-years-old or younger. We will serve lunch only on Monday, March 16, 2020. Twice a day service will run March 17-20, 2020 and March 23-27, 2020. It will not take place between March 30 and April 3, while schools were already scheduled to be closed for spring break.

We will be sending the following information home with students on Friday, March 13:

- 1) A handout titled “FCPS Learning Unplugged,” which contains 15 days of activities in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, physical education, health and art. These activities do not require any technology usage.
- 2) A list of stops and times throughout our community where children can come and pick up breakfast and lunch.
- 3) A handout titled “Family Fun Activities.”
- 4) Books, workbooks, and electronic devices as available to support learning at home.

While our schools are closed, our Bluegrass HealthFirst Clinics at Arlington, Booker T. Washington, Breckinridge, Cardinal Valley, Harrison, Mary Todd, Tate Creek and William Wells Brown elementary schools, and Lexington Traditional Magnet School will remain open and available to service students and families. Please call the clinic prior to arrival to ensure staff are onsite.

School offices will be open next week to help respond to questions. The district switchboard will accept phone calls at 859-381-4100 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. five days a week for the next two weeks, and will stop between March 30 and April 3 (while schools are scheduled to be closed for spring break). Except for the week of spring break, our Family Resource and Youth Service Centers will also be available to accept phone calls to support families with essential needs. District Mental Health Professionals will be available to respond to and support youth and families. To reach this service, people should call 859-381-4100.

Thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

Your Partner,



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Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent