

MEMO Re: Closure of Schools Update  
Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Date: 4-2-2020

Dear MSAD 54 Parents, Guardians, Students, and Community,

These are truly unique times that have placed a burden on all of the things we value, including and at the forefront, our families. It is with this in mind that I am writing to provide you with an update on the district's next-steps as a result of the ongoing school-closure due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. As you are aware, Governor Mills' most recent order has extended the closure of schools through at least May 1<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, the guidance from the CDC and other medical experts lead me to believe that this closure will likely extend beyond that. Regional Superintendents will be meeting over the coming weeks to discuss next steps as we await further guidance from the state. In the meantime, I wanted to highlight the approach we are taking with respect to food delivery, district schools/offices and support, and at-home opportunities for learning for our students. Know that we recognize that nothing about this situation is ideal, but we, like you, will continue to do our very best.

Below are the essential services that will continue under Governor Mills recent Stay at Home order:

- Meal Deliveries will continue, but we ask for your help with coolers/crates (see below).
- Schools will continue to be staffed by administrators and office staff.
- Our staff will continue to provide opportunities for at-home learning for students.
- We will continue to maintain and clean our facilities to provide a safe environment for all.
- We will continue to provide administrative and financial services in our central office.

**Food Deliveries:** The district has been delivering breakfast and lunch by bus daily during the week and recently added Friday deliveries that include meals over the weekend. This important service requires some help from you to ensure our district staff (Drivers, support staff, nutrition workers, etc.) are safe. We ask that you **please put out a cooler, crate, or box out at each stop. These coolers/crates should be marked with the # of meals** (and grades of kids if you want educational packets). For updated bus route times, please visit: <https://www.msad54.org/bussing-information> or call us at: 474-9043.

**Schools Offices:** Our schools are closed to the public. Administrators, secretaries, counselors, and nurses are here to answer your calls and support you. Packets/resources may be picked up by appointment.

**Opportunities for At-Home Learning:** MSAD 54 has developed a robust website with resources K-12. This site ( <http://bit.ly/msad54> ) will be updated this weekend and will include educational resources by grade (K-6), by team (SAMS), by course (SAHS) as well as individual teacher sites (K-12). We will continue to provide packets for families with another two-week distribution on Monday, 4/6. I encourage you to visit the site for additional details and plans moving forward: <http://bit.ly/msad54>

As you know, this situation has continued to evolve and I'm incredibly proud of how our staff have stepped up at all of our schools. We will continue to provide updates including some thoughts on long-range plans, grading, etc. on our educational resources packet. Visit: [www.msad54.org](http://www.msad54.org) for updates.

For the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable friends and neighbors, I encourage you to follow the Governor's order and remain home as much as possible, and practice social-distancing. Stay safe.

Sincerely,



Brent Colbry  
Superintendent of Schools

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Educational Opportunities for Learning can be found online at:  
<https://sites.google.com/msad54.org/msad54-distance-learning/home>