



To: Washington Township (WT) School Families
CC: Washington Township Staff
RE: Coronavirus School Closure Update & Information
Date: March 13, 2020

School Closure & Coronavirus Update

- Under the direction of Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD) and in collaboration with Mayor Hogsett's office, the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township **will be closed to students through April 3, 2020** due to Coronavirus and in an overabundance of caution.
- This is a fluid situation and can change. Please remember that the purpose of the closure is social distancing to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Per guidance from MCPHD please refrain from unnecessary trips to public spaces and large gatherings during this closure time. We also encourage you to continue the MCPHD guidance on remaining healthy during this time.
- The most updated information on the Coronavirus can be found at www.MarionHealth.org and www.CDC.gov/COVID-19. If you have questions or concerns regarding the Coronavirus please call the MCPHD Coronavirus Call Center at 317-221-5500 or contact your primary care physician.

Guidance for Students During the Closure - FAQs

Q: Will Washington Township Schools offer meal assistance during the closure?

A: Yes. FREE meal packets for any WT families will be available during the school closure:

- WT Child Nutrition will provide "Grab and Go" meal packets for families. Meal packets will contain 8 days of breakfast and lunch supplies.
- **Distribution will be held at every WT school through curbside service pick-up due to social distancing recommendation:**
 - **Wednesday, March 18 from 9:00 - 11:00 AM and 5:00 - 7:00 PM.**
- If you are unable to pick-up meals during the times above on March 18th, please complete our [Meal Assistance During School Closure Form](#). A staff member from the MSDWT Child Nutrition team will follow-up with you within 24 hours.

Q: Are there other sources for food in the community?

A: Yes. Please follow the information below for other sources for finding food assistance in Marion County:

- With Community Compass, you can find:
 - Free Meal Locations
 - Free Groceries
 - Food Related Events
 - Information on WIC, SNAP, and other programs
- Two ways to get help:
 - On your smartphone:
 - Go to App Store and search for “Community Compass”
 - Download and install
 - Start using to find food assistance you need
 - Don’t have a smartphone:
 - Text “hi” to 317-434-3758 to find assistance
- Questions? Visit indyhunger.org/compass and watch instructional videos.

Q: Will report cards for quarter 3 be issued in light of the school closure?

A: The third quarter ended on March 13. Report cards will be sent electronically to families on March 20 via Skylert.

Q: What should students do at home during the closure and will there be eLearning days?

A: As you are aware, the Governor stated on March 12th that school districts are able to waive up to 20 missed instructional days due to Coronavirus. Due to this announcement, March 13 through March 27 will be 11 waived instructional days. WT values continued instructional activities, however, and will designate these days as *At Home Learning Days* for our students. These will not be designated eLearning days, so the Indiana requirements for eLearning days do not need to be followed.

Since these are waived instructional days, the at home learning activities will be optional for students to complete, and grades will not be issued. Again, our goal is to offer continued learning activities even though the days are waived. Although teachers will not issue grades for the at home learning activities, they will issue valuable feedback to students.

Additional details:

- Your child’s teacher(s) will communicate at home learning opportunities by Wednesday, March 18.
- The district will utilize online resources and opportunities for students through Canvas, Google Suite, etc. Additional information on virtual learning opportunities will be released in the event of extended closure.
- Unfortunately, due to recommended social distancing requirements from MCPHD, we will not be able to bring students back to school to issue devices.

- Access [free community wifi](#)

Q: Will I have an opportunity to pick up my child's medication(s) at school?

A: Our school clinics will be open to parents and/or guardians interested in picking up their child's medications on Monday, March 16 from 12-4 PM as well as Wednesday, March 18 from 8-11 AM.

Q: What is guidance for students and families with planned travel during Spring Break?

A: Guidance for travel should come from up to date information from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) at www.CDC.gov/COVID-19.

- Students or staff members returning from a country with a Level 2 or Level 3 advisory should self-quarantine for 14 days upon return to the US.
- As this situation is rapidly evolving, health authorities may also impose international, domestic and/or regional US travel restrictions at any time. Please reference the CDC website on quarantine requirements based on your travel plans.
- Students or staff members who return from ANY travel with COVID-19 symptoms should contact their primary care physician or MCPHD.

Q: How will WT Schools implement cleaning of schools and buses during the closure?

A: WT will use the school closure to deep clean schools and buses per the guidelines from MCPHD.

- MSDWT will continue to clean and disinfect schools, facilities, and buses in alignment with guidance from the CDC.
- Custodial staff at all schools are focusing extra attention on sanitizing high traffic areas and commonly used surfaces including counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, light switches, keyboards, and tablets.

Q: How can families stay healthy during the closure?

A: Currently, the Center for Disease Control, Indiana State Board of Health, and Marion County Public Health Department recommend the following:

- Social distancing
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow.
- Throw used tissues away in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay away from people who are sick or not feeling well and avoid close contact with others through hugging, kissing, or shaking hands.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects such as toys and doorknobs.
- Seek assistance from your doctor or a health professional if you see or experience symptoms that cause concern.

Q: What are additional resources for families during this closure?

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Indiana Department of Health](#)
- [9 Tips to Stay Germ Free at School](#)
- [Free Internet assistance through Comcast](#)
- Indiana Department of Education (IDOE): [IDOE](#)
- Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD): [MCPHD |](#)
- Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH): [ISDH: ISDH Home](#)
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- World Health Organization (WHO): [World Health Organization: WHO](#)
- Link to MSDWT homepage with many resources:
<https://www.msdt.k12.in.us/2020/03/health-concerns/>