

March 19, 2020

COVID-19 Response

Dear Preston Public Schools Learning Community,

On the evening of March 17, 2020, Governor Lamont issued an executive order that directed school districts to develop and implement a continuity of learning for all students. Over the last 24 to 48 hours, our district staff has developed learning packets that have been delivered to each home by the end of the day, March 18, 2020. Our second step in the process of responding to the Governor's directive includes analyzing and distributing to students various virtual learning experiences using Google Classroom and other virtual materials.

We are aware that our routines as a learning community are significantly disrupted. We sincerely appreciate your commitment to your child's education. The circumstances remain fast-moving and dynamic, with changes occurring daily, if not hourly. We are rebuilding and redeploying our entire learning organization. Our goal is to provide your students with the best learning experience possible under these challenging conditions. We are in continuous contact with a myriad of leadership organizations, including the Connecticut Department of Education, the Department of Health, and the Governor's Office. Thank you so much for your patience as we move through this reorganization and redeploying process.

In summary, here are steps we are taking: (1) As you know, all schools are closed until further notice, at least through March 31, 2020. There will be periodic reviews of this action. (2) The district will still have April break. (3) Our school year will end on June 18, 2020, no matter how many days missed during this event. (4) Our team is working to ensure the continuity of learning for all students. This effort will be successful with the reaffirmation of the school-home partnership we work at every school day. Teachers, paraeducators, and administrators have begun reaching out to you at home to check in on our learners and their families. Please take the time to confer and share your thoughts and concerns. (5) Contact the district office if you need assistance with an in-home device to participate in our virtual learning experiences. (6) There will be ongoing communication from teachers, administrators, and the superintendent's office. (7) Foodservice will continue to provide curbside breakfast and lunch from 10 AM to 2 PM every day Monday through Friday.

Please let us know if you need additional hours for pick up.

The pace of the nation's response to COVID-19 has been fast-moving and disruptive to us all. Please look for updated information on our website, the Preston Panther's Superintendent Facebook page, district email, or letter.

Thank you for all of your attention, patience, and support during these challenging and unprecedented times. We are with you.
Be well. Stay safe. Care for each other.

Roy M. Seitsinger, Jr., Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools