



Q & A Regarding Potential School Closures

Who decides if a school is closed? Summit County.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-for-schools.html

How will schools communicate with families and students in the event of a closure?

- Official communication will be provided through the district website at www.pcschools.us.
- Official communication will also be received via phone/text/email. Contact information must be provided to the school for this purpose. Parents/guardians and employees should make sure they have provided the school's main office with updated contact information.

How long would a school closure be in place?

- The answer to this question depends upon a number of things, but current estimates from the CDC guidance is by calendar 14 days to 30 days.

Will education be “waived” in the event of a closure? Will students have to make up instruction?

- The State of Utah has indicated that a waiver for instruction may be issued provided that districts continue to provide services to students during a school closure.
- PCSD is preparing “at-home” learning opportunities as follows:
 - K-5 student learning packets which include standard-based activities.
 - 6-12 students will continue instruction online through CANVAS.

When and how will students receive a learning packet?

Learning packets for k-5 are being developed, in sequence, one week at a time. The first packet should be available and sent home for students on Friday, March 13, 2020. The packet should remain at home and not be used until the first day of a school closure. Subsequent packets will be sent home with students weekly. In the event of a school closure, parents/guardians should view the PCSD website for further information.

What is the expectation for parents/guardians with respect to home learning packets?

Home learning packets will include activities that review grade-level standards. Thus, parents are not responsible for teaching children new concepts at home. Given we are approaching end-of-the-year testing, this is an ideal time for reviewing and reinforcing concepts. Some of the packet work may include opportunities for students (age appropriate) to log in to regularly used websites and or learning applications for practice. Examples include, iReady for reading and math. Each set of daily learning activities should engage students for four (4) hours total per day. The district is currently working on a plan to support parents with learning packets which would include a virtual meeting place. Information will be forthcoming.

What about families without a technical device and/or access to the internet?

- Families are being surveyed regarding technology needs.
- Families will be provided internet access via PCSD, based upon need.
- All students, grades 6-12, have a personal device that goes home daily. Schools should work with students to determine any needs for non-functioning devices and/or chargers and report them to site-level technology staff immediately.
- Students in grades K-5 have devices that are currently used in classrooms only. At this time, we are working on procedures to consider use of devices at home.

Will extracurricular activities (including sports) continue in the event of a school closure?

- All events and extracurricular activities, including sports, will be cancelled in the event of a school closure. Information regarding rescheduling will be available when appropriate.

I have a student who is experiencing anxiety and stress regarding COVID-19? What should I do?

There is excellent information regarding coping with stress found on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/coping.html>

If one school closes, will all schools close?

Official guidance regarding school closures will come from Summit County and will be on a case- by-case basis.

What will happen if schools close during a scheduled standardized-testing window?

At this time, we are seeking guidance from USBE regarding state testing and school closures.

In the event of a school closure, how will we know when schools are to be re-opened?

All official information from PCSD to families and employees will be provided via the PCSD website. School re-openings will be announced there.

What can we do to help make any school closure a positive experience for all stakeholders?

It is important that all stakeholders remain calm and flexible. Our goal, first and foremost, is to ensure all students are safe. Secondly, and equally important, is our goal to continue to educate students. We appreciate attention to official communications and a timely response as indicated. As we work together, it is possible to create a positive, productive experience for all during this unpredictable challenge.