



2700 KEARNS BOULEVARD
PARK CITY, UT 84060

OFFICE: (435) 645-5600
FAX: (435) 645-5609

March 12, 2020

Park City School District Families & Staff,

We are actively working with all stakeholders as well as local and state health departments as we respond to new information and guidelines each day regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus). I wanted to update you on the planning efforts and action steps being taken by the district.

- We are actively monitoring health statistics, by school, in an effort to quickly uncover emerging district trends that may not be evident within a given siloed school.
- Informational updates are posted frequently on pcschools.us.
- We have ensured our inventory of approved and appropriate cleaning supplies are well stocked.
- Facility teams are reviewing a number of air ionizing options installed in our air handlers that will allow ion attachment to virus particles.
- Maintenance staffs are replacing air handler filters in our buildings with lower micron units, designed to capture virus particles.
- At this time, we continue to disinfect our schools daily with additional wipe down strategies in place. School facilities staff are conducting nightly deep cleanings using strong, yet safe disinfectants on "all high touch points."
- We are working to communicate with the public to elevate standard hygiene protocol designed to slow spread of viruses including providing reminders to our students about hand washing and reducing the spread of germs through prevention and treatment.
- We are limiting all non-educational providers from entering schools on school days when students are present & are postponing new family tours until the first week of June.

Our district's response is based on the most recent guidance shared by the Governor's Office in consultation with the Department of Health, and are subject to change as new information is available. While not meant to alarm anyone, these measures are being put in place to reduce avoidable exposure for students and staff.

Prevention/Symptoms

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick or a family member is sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Symptoms

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



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School Closures

If a decision is made to close schools, it will be based on consultation with our state and local health officials.

Should we experience an extended closure beyond two weeks, we will work with the Utah State Department of Education (USDE) with regard to meeting the statutory 180 school days requirement. In preparation for a possible school closure, all students and staff are advised to take their belongings home each night (laptops, chargers, workbooks, etc.)

Parents are asked to encourage their children to carry their devices home every day from school and to alert their principal, teacher or school counselor if they do not have internet at home. The district has an existing program to provide internet hotspots for homes without access.

Distance Learning Plan

Depending on the length of any closure, our academic teams are preparing continuous learning plans to provide meaningful educational opportunities for our students. These plans are based on several variables, and include access to both paper and digital learning. This is in the event of any multiple day closure to reduce both loss of learning, continue to academically challenge our students as well as limit downtime during this period.

Extended learning activities will be sent home weekly for up to 4 weeks with each student in grades PK-5 beginning March 13. These instructional packets are designed to review previously taught content, so parents are not required to “teach” or “instruct” but simply to support their learner at home. The packets may remain at home for summer review in the event they are not needed during the school year.

Our 6th-12th grade students will be able to continue their learning via online access in Google Classroom or the Canvas learning management system. Students are to engage in coursework a minimum of four hours per day while they remain at home in order to meet state regulations.

Travel

With the upcoming Spring Recess in April you may have travel plans. We ask that if you travel

out of state or the country that you vigilantly monitor and report any signs of illness as the incubation period for COVID-19 is estimated to be 2-14 days. Public school staff do not determine a COVID-19 diagnosis. Those tasks are the responsibility of state and local health departments, which have liaisons who will work with school districts as cases arise.

Food Service

While many of our families’ members rely on our schools to provide a healthy meal, we are



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working with our child nutrition services department and our state and federal agencies to develop a plan to continue providing meals in the event of an extended school closure. These meals will likely be “grab and go” from centralized locations in the community.

Childcare

We recognize and understand the hardship any closure may bring to families. We will be working hard to help support families and we will share information as it becomes available on childcare recommendations.

Our Great Staff

I want to personally thank our administrative team, Park City Educator Association (PCEA), Park City Educational Support Personnel (PCCEA) and Employee Group (EIG) leadership, and all of our exceptional staff for their assistance and support in developing a plan to minimize disruption to student learning.

Our Great Families

We recognize the impact and hardship any school closure will have on families with regard to childcare, including the ability to work and other factors that will impact your daily life. I want to thank all of our families for their understanding and flexibility as we navigate together through this uncharted journey.

This is an unsettling time given the access to social media, news stories, and constant barrage of information which can be frightening, especially for children and young people. Thank you for supporting our staff as they work to keep a sense of normalcy and calm for our students.

For more information about COVID-19 (coronavirus), including prevention, symptoms, and link to health agencies, please see the resources posted on our website.

Sincerely,

Jill Gildea, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools