



Superintendent's Office

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

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Dear WESD Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your patience as we work to communicate and answer the many questions related to COVID-19. We want you to know that we care about you, your child and your family. This is a fluid situation so thank you for your understanding.

As we shared Sunday, Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent Kathy Hoffman directed a statewide closure of all schools in Arizona through Friday, March 27. The WESD leadership team has been meeting to plan for next week's closure, as well as, the possibility of an extended closure. Below are a few updates:

- **Food and Nutrition:** The WESD will provide free breakfast and lunch from 10:30 a.m. to noon March 23 – 27 at 13 sites. Meals will be available by drive through or pick up. Children can pick up one sack lunch for that afternoon and one sack breakfast for the following day. All children 18 and under qualify and they do not have to be students in the WESD to participate. Per USDA regulations, children must be present to receive meals. Meals will be distributed outside at each location and, for the safety of all involved, not be consumed at the site. Please [click the link](#) for a complete list of pick up locations.
- **Medication Pick Up:** On Monday, March 23, WESD Health Techs will be available at all schools for families who wish to pick up essential medications. Parents should go to the front office of their child(ren)'s school between 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Medications may only be picked up by the child's parent. For safety purposes, we will be practicing social distancing and limiting the number of people in the Health Office at one time.
- **Educational Resources:** Parents can find a link for educational resources on our [COVID-19 Information page](#). The page will provide educational resources to support ongoing enrichment. These activities are recommended as they can help keep children engaged in learning during school closures. WESD will continue to review options for providing educational resources to families and will provide updated information.
- **Deep Cleaning:** Our facilities managers conducted a deep clean of schools during the break, disinfecting high touch areas. Additionally, Nutrition Services and Facilities staff will continue increased precautions to ensure the health and safety of students and staff during the preparation and meal delivery program.
- **Large Events:** The WESD Art Show at ASU West scheduled for Tuesday, March 24 has been canceled and the two community meetings regarding boundary/grade configuration changes at Desert View, Royal Palm, Maryland and Ocotillo have been postponed.
- **Athletics:** All WESD athletics including practices are suspended through at least March 27. We will continue to update.
- **Facility Usage:** WESD has suspended all facility use rentals of buildings and fields through June 1.

- **Early Childhood Registration**: The free registration event scheduled for April 1, 2020, for the 4-year-old Early Childhood Enrichment Program will be rescheduled.
- **Field Trips**: The WESD is evaluating field trips – out-of-state, out-of-county and local. No trips are scheduled during the closure next week. We will continue to update.
- **COVID 19 Resources**: We have additional resources available regarding COVID-19 on our **information page**. This includes tips for talking to your child about the virus and some coping skills. There is also information for families who are seeking community resources related to food insecurity.

Again, this is a fluid situation. As we receive more guidance from local, state and federal officials we will continue to update our families and answer questions. Please share your questions by either responding to this email or emailing wesdcommserv@wesdschools.org. This will help us answer questions and add them to our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section on our [COVID-19 Information](#) page.

Thank you, WESD Family, for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Stanton
Superintendent