

March 12, 2020

Dear Bellevue Learning Community,

This afternoon, **Governor Inslee announced his Executive Order to close all schools in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties from March 16 through April 24.** This closure is longer than we originally anticipated, but we fully support protecting the health and safety of our students, staff, and families. We have plans in place to serve our students and families during this closure.

Learning Opportunities

We are committed to finding meaningful ways to serve each and every student during this closure.

Beginning on Monday, March 16, teachers for students in kindergarten through grade 5 will be reaching out to families to share learning resources students can use during the closure. By March 23, students will have daily learning opportunities in multiple subject areas. If you need help to access these materials or to secure printed copies, please respond to your student's teacher. We will also be sharing resources with parents to help you support your child. Students in our middle and high schools will be able to access, submit, and share assignments and class resources for each of their classes via OneNote. Students and teachers have also received training on Microsoft Teams.

We are finalizing plans to support our graduating seniors, students taking Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams, and students who are credit deficient. We are also finalizing plans for serving for specialized student needs during this time. We will share more detailed information on what families can expect in these areas next week.

We know that it will take time for all of us to adjust to these remote learning opportunities, and we anticipate refining and enhancing this work as we learn more. By March 23, students and families will receive updated information about learning opportunities during the closure. Educators will continue to work and be accessible throughout the closure.

While we know this learning will be different from what students experience full-time in classrooms every day, we are excited to be able to continue engaging our students in meaningful learning opportunities during this challenging time. Many thanks to all our educators, staff, families, and our students for your patience and flexibility as we work together to serve each and every student in our district.

Family Services

We know that this extended closure will impact many of our families and we have plans in place to support other student needs while our schools are closed. Please sign up using this link ([English/Spanish](#)) to let us know that you may need any of these services.

- **Meals will be available to any child under the age of 18 at Lake Hills Elementary School and Sammamish High School from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. daily.** During that time, families will receive a lunch and breakfast for the following day.
- **Childcare is available for no cost at Lake Hills Elementary School for children in preschool through 5th grade.** Childcare hours at the school will be from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Space will be limited. The Bellevue Boys and Girls Club will also be open and providing care while schools are closed. Register on their [Schools Out Days](#) website.
- **Wifi hotspots and laptops are available for student use.** They can be checked out from our Technology Office. Students can also receive tech support from the tech support staff at their school, who will be available by email and phone, from our help desk at studenthelp@bsd405.org, or in person at Sammamish High School.

Additional Helpful Information

While schools are closed to students, district and learning operations will continue. If families need assistance, they can reach departments or schools by phone or email.

Spring sports and practices are cancelled during the closure.

Spring break will happen as scheduled from April 13 through 17, so educators will not be working during that time and students should not expect to receive new materials during that week.

Protecting Your Health

We encourage you to continue to follow existing guidelines to protect your own health. The Centers for Disease Control recommends:

- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds; use alcohol-based sanitizer if no water is available
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact (within 6 feet) with those who are sick
- Stay home if sick
- Cover cough or sneeze with tissue, throw tissue in trash, wash hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched object and surfaces

Washington State Department of Health has additional [guidelines](#) for protecting yourself at this time.

Stay Connected

We will continue to provide regular updates on our [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) page](#). Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we all work through this challenging time together.