



CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 – COVID-19 **Update ~ March 23, 2020**

Below are a list of FAQ Responses Based on the Common Questions we have Received

Q: How long will schools be closed?

A: The Department of Education (PDE) announced today all schools in the commonwealth will remain closed through at least April 6th as a result of the COVID-19 response efforts. The closure order could be extended beyond April 6th if necessary to save lives and stop the spread of COVID-19. Under the new timeline, school buildings would reopen on April 7th for two days to allow school administrators, teachers and other staff time to prepare classrooms and arrange other business operations. Students would be slated to return to school on April 9th, unless extending the closure is needed in response to the situation with the virus at that time. We will communicate directly with families as the District receives additional notifications.

Q: Does the 3rd Marking Period still end on March 20th?

A: Originally, the end of the 3rd marking period was scheduled for March 20th. Given the current school closure, the 3rd marking period has since been calculated at the end of the day on March 13th. It was determined by coinciding the 4th marking period with the return of students to school, the district would be able to ensure student continuity of education. Any makeup work or projects that may have been assigned before this closure may still be completed and graded, and this is dependent upon the individual teachers.

Q: What about state standardized assessments such as the PSSA, Keystone Exams and the NOCTI?

A: Last week, the Pennsylvania Department of Education received a waiver from the United States Department of Education to suspend the State standardized assessments. In addition, PDE is cancelling the standardized testing for students in career and technical education (CTE) programs for the 2019-20 school year. These include exams from the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) and National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS).

Q: Will Senior Trip, Prom and Graduation continue as scheduled? What about other school events?

A: All events are currently cancelled through April 6, 2020. A decision has not yet been made on the continuation of events like the Senior Trip, Prom and Graduation. These decisions would be influenced by the potential spread of the COVID-19 and recommendations issued by state and Local Authorities. We recognize that these are important events for students and their families and will communicate any changes as they become known. For all other events and trips that are scheduled beyond April 6th, we will communicate the status of these future events once more details are provided by PDE.

Q: Have any decisions been made regarding spring sports?

A: All extra-curricular activities on campus have been postponed until after April 6, 2020. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) will continue to monitor the situation and issue notifications on the status of the State-wide closure. At the current time, they have not made any decisions regarding the PIAA Winter Championships or spring sports.

Resources and Information:

For the most up-to-date information about COVID-19, please visit the links below:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>