

March 13, 2020

Dear Abington School District Community,

I write to provide an update on the status of Abington School District as we head into our two-week closure due to the spread of coronavirus in Montgomery County, PA. Once again, I would like to thank our entire community, from our Abington School District team members, to our students and parents/guardians, for their cooperation during this constantly evolving time period. As I mentioned yesterday, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf directed all schools in our county to close through March 27, 2020. **We tentatively plan to reopen Abington School District schools on Monday, March 30, 2020.**

I realize that our ASD families may have many questions at this time. We are making an effort to communicate information as soon as it becomes available, and will continue to share updates via our [Coronavirus Resource Center](#) throughout the duration of this closure, in addition to ongoing messages sent through Skyward. In the meantime, I am able to provide the following information:

- **Abington School District Staffing:** While our buildings will remain closed through March 27, most of our employees will continue to work remotely. If you need to contact your child's principal or any of our department administrators during this time, the best way to do this is via email.
- **Family Assistance:** I have sent a letter under separate cover to Abington School District's families who might be in need of assistance during this difficult time. This letter includes available resources, such as food pantries and information on how low-income families can access free broadband internet. These resources have also been shared on our Coronavirus Resource Center mentioned above. Separately, we are working with our food service provider, Chartwells, to coordinate with local food pantries to supply them with food while schools are closed.
- **Calendar of Events:** All Abington School District activities and permits for the use of buildings and grounds have been canceled or postponed, including the SATs scheduled for March 14 at Abington Senior High School, and the Abington Educational Foundation's Harlem Wizards Family Fun Event, originally scheduled for March 28. We will do our best to reschedule essential events upon the reopening of schools, and building principals and/or event organizers/permit holders will communicate rescheduled dates when able. Please note there has been no direction from the Pennsylvania Department of Education at this time regarding state assessments and exams scheduled for April, or decisions made regarding waiving days on the 180-day required calendar.
- **Instructional Contingency Plan:** The Teaching and Learning Department sent today a Skyward message to all families regarding accessing our enrichment activities and materials during this closure. These instructions will be made available on our Coronavirus Resource Center, but please note that due to copyrights, no actual materials will be shared via this web page. The materials are meant to cover the current period of school closure. The goal of these lessons is to continue reinforcing skillsets and information learned in school so that students are better-equipped to transition once they get back. Please contact your child's principal via email if you have trouble accessing the materials, or have questions about the take-home packet your elementary-aged child received this week. The packet provided to elementary students can be

submitted to the student's teacher(s) upon the return to school. Your child's principal can also direct you to assistance if you experience any trouble with Skyward.

We realize that families may have more questions. I would like to reiterate that email is the best way to get these questions answered until the reopening of schools. I wish the best for our students, staff and community during this difficult time. Our Abington School District team looks forward to seeing your children happy and healthy when we hopefully return on March 30, 2020.

Regards,

Jeffrey S. Fecher, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools