

Wednesday, March 25, 2020: District email

Good afternoon,

The Governor announced today that all Minnesota school districts must implement a Distance Learning Period from March 30 to May 4. Until we can see each other in person again, hopefully on May 5, we are excited to connect remotely.

Distance learning is something we have been preparing for in White Bear Lake Area Schools since our initial Spring Break extension announced on March 13. I am confident our students and teachers will grow and thrive in this new learning model.

In his message, the governor also limited movement state-wide with a Stay at Home Executive Order that will be effective Friday, March 27 at 11:59 p.m. until Friday, April 10. Our school buildings will continue to be open from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. tomorrow and Friday to allow families time to pick up items they need from children's lockers.

The operation of schools is an essential service, so staff members will continue to work and serve our students and families. The district will continue to provide [meal access](#) for those children in need and [childcare for essential workers](#).

I am very proud of what we've all accomplished in a short time already. The actions of our students, families and staff have truly modeled the incredible character of a Bear.

Thank you for your flexibility and positivity in this unusual time,

Dr. Wayne A. Kazmierczak

Superintendent of White Bear Lake Area Schools

Childcare for Tier 1 and Tier 2 Workers

The district continues to provide childcare for Tier 1 healthcare and emergency responders. Starting March 30, and as the district has capacity to do so, we will accommodate those groups of employees that the governor has identified as Tier 2 employees (defined below).

Childcare details:

Care will be provided for children ages 4-12 years old. This service will be free to families and the hours for these services will be from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Locations will be:

- Oneka Elementary (4888 Heritage Pkwy North, Hugo, MN 55038)
- Birch Lake Elementary (1616 Birch Lake Ave, White Bear Lake, MN 55110)
- Willow Lane Elementary (3375 Willow Ave, White Bear Lake, MN 55110)
- If needed, and if possible, an additional location may be added

Our staff members are working to create a plan to incorporate distance learning into the childcare environment.

In order to qualify for and utilize this childcare service, parents will be required to either provide a letter from their employer or show an employment badge indicating that they are working within at least one of the areas that the governor's office has described below:

- Educators
- Child care workers
- MNDot employees
- State and local essential IT personnel
- Substance disorder treatment workers
- Medical examiners
- National Guard (if activated)
- Water Treatment/Wastewater Employees
- Day-to-Day Operations for Gas & Electric Utilities
- Emergency Response for Gas & Electric Utilities
- Food Distribution Workers
- Public Works
- Solid Waste Management (waste, recyclable/organics)
- Other Shelter Staff & Outreach Workers
- Telecommunication Network Operations

Registration information

For students and families who meet the requirements above, and are in need of school-based childcare, we ask that you either register via [this link](#) or call 651-407-7501. Please leave a voicemail if calling outside of work hours.

Registration is required for Tier 2 childcare. Those who register and are accepted will be contacted with confirmation of their child's site within 24 hours, Monday-Friday. Receipt of this notice is required before students will be accepted at the childcare site.

For students and families who do not meet the requirements above, regular White Bear Lake Area Schools' childcare programming will be closed.