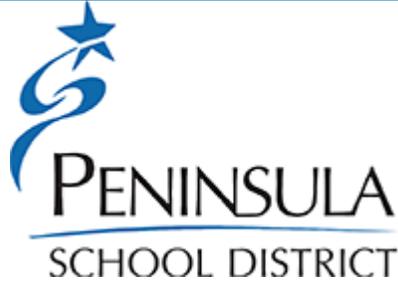


March 28, 2020



COVID-19 and the State of the District

Dear PSD staff and families,

Congratulations on making it through the first few days of “Stay Home, Stay Healthy,” as ordered by our governor on Monday. Like our classroom educators and other building staff, district leaders and support staff are now working from home, relying on Zoom meetings and teleconferences to conduct district business. In fact, our school board successfully met for the first time via webinar Thursday night. You can view a recording of the meeting [HERE](#).

Here are some updates to close the week:

Continuous Learning

As we mentioned on Wednesday, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) provided additional guidance to school districts regarding school closures. The guidance provided an emphasis on continuous learning opportunities, which was somewhat different than the guidance OSPI provided earlier this month. School districts across the state are charged with providing continuous learning by Monday, March 30.

The Peninsula School District offered continuous learning opportunities this past week as teachers, counselors, and other staff connected with students and families, including our special populations of students, like those with disabilities, English Learners, and students experiencing homelessness.

We will continue to strengthen our delivery of continuous learning opportunities next week. Please stay tuned.

Zoom via telephone

Some teachers and staff have been using a popular online meeting program called Zoom to have gatherings or do classroom activities. Can't connect to Zoom online? All Zoom sessions have a phone number available to call in to the meeting for audio only. So, as long as you have a phone, you can still be part of the activity.

Did you know? PSD has WiFi hotspots you can use

The Peninsula School District has external hotspots at some of our school buildings. Free internet connections are available at:

- Artondale Elementary School
- Evergreen Elementary School
- Key Peninsula Middle School
- Minter Creek Elementary School

You can simply drive up and access the internet from your car, in the parking lot!

School calendar updates

The recent school closure has led to some changes to our 2019-2020 academic calendar. For the days we were out of school, March 16-18, we will use our three remaining 'snow make up' days, May 22, June 18, and June 19. As for the other days, the district will follow the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) guidelines for waivers related to COVID-19. We anticipate that school will be in session April 27 through June 19, 2020.

PSD Grab and Go meals expand to a bus stop near you

To help support families during the school closure due to coronavirus, Peninsula School District has been serving an average of 1,000 meals a day to students 18 and under in our community.

The meal service is free and includes both breakfast and lunch. Students do not need to qualify for free or reduced meals to receive meals, and no forms or registration are required.

Since starting the program, we've learned that some students are unable to get to the locations where meals are served. Therefore, beginning Monday, March 30, meals will be delivered to students along bus routes in elementary school service areas. These areas are Vaughn and Minter Creek on the Key Peninsula, and Discovery and Voyager in Gig Harbor. Bus drivers and food services staff are authorized to do this and are following required social distancing protocols. Bus routes for each service area and bus stop times are listed [HERE](#). The Discovery/Voyager route will be expanded as needed.

Meal planning survey

Please help us plan for your child's meal needs by completing this [survey](#). We will expand meal bus routes to other locations in our district according to families' needs, so please let us know by completing the survey if you have a need for this service.

Meals are still available at the following sites for pickup Monday-Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.:

- Artondale Elementary;
- Evergreen Elementary;
- Purdy Elementary;
- Key Peninsula Middle School; and
- Gig Harbor High School.

Meal stations are located near the front of each school to encourage social distancing. Also, parents may now pick up lunches for their children.

Pre-ordering is not necessary, but meal orders can be submitted online by clicking [HERE](#). Questions can be emailed to info@psd401.net.

Get ready for Remind

The Peninsula School District is ready to start using a communications tool called Remind, a messaging platform used by educators. This platform will allow teachers to connect with students and parents via messages, and will also allow staff to make voice calls while we are all at home without divulging personal phone numbers.

Some students and parents may have already received messages from teachers or staff through Remind. Students have been enrolled using their district email address. Students age 13+ who have their mobile number entered in the student information system will also receive text messages on their phone. Family members identified in our student information system as having custody, or who are marked to receive mail for a student, have been automatically entered with their primary email address and phone number. To change the email or phone number on file, or confirm that this information is correct, please go to the year round update section of your Powerschool account.

The district is preparing to send its initial districtwide notification for parents to access their Remind accounts. These messages will go out as an email address, if a primary email address is on file, or as a text message, if a mobile phone is on file. If parents have both a mobile number and an email address on their account, they will receive both an email and a text message.

Remind updates from teachers

Parents have been automatically enrolled in their students' courses. If the teacher has activated them, you will receive updates from teachers as they send them. You can always opt out of receiving updates from a class, or

no longer receive notifications at a specific email address or phone number. Go [here for instructions](#) on how to opt out.

You do not need to set up your Remind account to receive messages; however, you can add additional groups and [change your preferences and contact information](#) if you set up the account. Remind accounts can be set up on [their website](#) or on the [Remind app](#) for iPhone and Android.

If you have a hard time locating the Remind notification...

If you can't find the Remind email in your inbox, [go to this link](#) and type in the email address where you normally get school district communication. Alternatively, you can [join your school](#).

Please see [Remind's Getting Started for Parents video](#) for more information on features and uses.

From all of us at Peninsula School District, stay safe, stay healthy, and have a nice weekend.



#WEarePSD

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