

March 17, 2020

Dear B-ESD Families,

These last few days have been filled with many questions and unknowns. Our District team is working hard to remain informed with the daily updates and guidance from our state and local officials, as well as collaborating with our neighboring school districts to support and coordinate plans to support students. We are so appreciative of your patience, flexibility and grace throughout this unprecedented time.

Our top concern is the health and safety of our students, staff and the greater Burlington-Edison community. As we communicated last week, **school is closed to students through at least Friday, April 24, 2020**. Additionally, all school campuses are closed to instructional staff until at least Tuesday, March 31, 2020. No instructional staff will be in the buildings during this two-week time. Additionally, all school offices are closed.

Learning Opportunities

Contemplating weeks without structure and opportunities to learn may seem overwhelming. One way to help students maintain a sense of normalcy is to develop a daily schedule to help provide a similar structure and routine that students experience at school. We included a sample schedule that you can tailor based on the needs and grade level of your student. You might consider utilizing a similar schedule to help keep your students engaged and active.

We are working on developing resources to support learning and reduce any loss of achievement or gains. Implementing a district-wide online or digitally-based learning program is not feasible for our District. The challenge with accessing internet and devices is a barrier to many within our community. However, students can still keep learning active and review concepts by accessing resources on our website (www.be.wednet.edu). These optional resources are not meant to be a substitute for classroom instruction but will help students practice their skills and learn independently during this extended closure. [Look for this website to go live with resources on Monday, March 23rd.](#) Please visit this website and our social media channels for updates on enrichment and learning opportunities.

All state assessments are canceled statewide for the remainder of the 2020 school year. Additionally, our K-6 report cards will be delayed for the 2nd trimester, as well as special education progress reports. We await guidance from OSPI on how best to provide support to our 12th grade students to ensure they complete graduation requirements.

Food Services

We know that in addition to education, schools provide vital support to our communities. This closure will have a major impact on our families. Breakfast and lunch will be available to all Burlington-Edison students starting on Wednesday, March 18th. See the included information or our website for a list of meal pick-up locations and times. These meals will be made available Monday through Friday.

Childcare

Closing schools has a major impact on our ability to staff hospitals, health care facilities, and other fire and medical departments. We are partnering with the Skagit Children's Museum to provide childcare, at no cost, to families who are in the medical field or who are first responders.

We will be sending frequent updates with information and resources via email, the website and social media channels. Please contact 360-757-3311 or email questions@be.wednet.edu for additional information on this service. Again, we are so grateful for your patience and understanding as we continue to work through this difficult situation. We will get through this challenge together.

Sincerely,



Laurel W. Browning
Superintendent, Burlington-Edison School District

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