



March 25, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, Governor Evers moved the state of Wisconsin to an order called, “Safer at Home.” This order further encourages all individuals to stay at home to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The School District of Beloit is allowed, under this order, to CONTINUE to provide student lunches and breakfast.

We have been impressed by the positive response of so many families to the work that our teachers have been providing to students to support educational programming during the school closure. We know that many of you have been able to support learning with your child(ren) by doing these school activities, along with reading, playing games, and doing special projects together during this time. Our staff members have done a great job maintaining learning opportunities for their students, and *you* have done a great job in supporting that learning and helping your family to stay safe during this critical time.

We also know that this is a very difficult time for all families. For many, it is a time of anxiety and fear. We all miss the routines of school, work, and our daily lives. Keeping a routine in the home during this time can be helpful. Trying to keep your morning schedule, mealtime schedules, and bedtime routines, as well as finding time to do some school work and time for exercise can be helpful in supporting everyone’s overall health.

We look forward to seeing you all again when we are allowed to reopen our schools. We hope that you remain safe and healthy. Please stay connected to the school district. You can find updates and resources on the [District Webpage](#).

This communication provides some answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) that you may have during this period of school closure.

Family FAQs

Will we make up the time we missed?

According to the DPI website, “The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will waive the hour requirement for any school district that requests the DPI to do so due to this ongoing public health emergency.” The School District of Beloit will submit a waiver. At this time, we are unsure if the school year will be extended.

When will we return to school?

March 25, 2020 Update - Gov. Tony Evers has issued a Safer at Home order that prohibits all nonessential travel, with some exceptions as clarified and defined in the order. The order is available [here](#).

The order is effective at 8 am on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, and will remain in effect until 8 am Fri., April 24, 2020, or until a superseding order is issued.



The School District of Beloit is working with local and state officials to define what this timeframe means for our staff and students as it relates to the 2019-20 school year. Updates will be provided when they become available.

Can my child pick-up items they left at school?

At this time, prescription medications are the only items families may arrange to pick up. This is to maintain the health and safety of our students, staff, and families.

Parents/Guardians: If your student has prescription medication in the health office that you will need during the school closure, please contact the Director of School Health, Michelle Babilius, at (608) 361-4024 or by email @ healthservices@sdb.k12.wi.us

Will meals continue to be available during the closure?

At this time, the School District of Beloit plans to continue to distribute meals at the designated sites (see below).

Meals

The School District of Beloit will provide a full sack lunch and breakfast for all children ages 1 to 18 Monday through Friday. Meals will be distributed in a grab and go manner, by School District employees from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at:

Beloit Memorial - Field House outside pickup (follow signage)

Converse - Drop Off Zone

Gaston - Drop Off Zone

Hackett - Drop Off Zone

Merrill - Drop Off Zone

Robinson - Drop Off Zone

Todd - Back Drop Off zone

Intermediate school students may pick-up meals at the closest elementary school.

Meals for students with food allergies and food modifications will be available.

Families unable to travel to a meal distribution location may call the Food Service Hotline at (608) 361-3136 to arrange alternate meal service options.

What instructional programming is being provided for my child during the closure?

Teachers will continue to provide supported learning opportunities and activities via email, apps, Google classroom, Dojo, etc. These lessons and activities are non-graded.

The School District of Beloit is providing instructional packets for students grades 4K - 5th grades. These packets will be delivered to homes this week. More information regarding 6th - 12th grade supported learning opportunities will be shared over the next few days.

Please continue to visit the District's [SDB Family Resource website](http://www.sdb.k12.wi.us) for additional learning activities for your child(ren).



Will my child receive special education and related services during this time?

According to the DPI "...if a school is closed for an extended period of time under a public health order and hours of instruction are not being provided to students in regular education, then the school district is not required to provide services to students with disabilities during the closure."

That being said, case managers will be checking in with and/or providing resources to students and/or families in order to ensure students are continuing to engage and make progress.

What about IEP meetings?

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) continues to issue guidance on special education timelines that we are following closely. That being said, the district will be making every attempt to abide by timelines which means annual IEP meetings will be held via teleconference or video conference. Please be sure that case managers have your updated contact information in order to reach out to you to set those up.

Will my child receive grades for Term 3 and Term 4?

Term 3 grades are not set at this time. We will continue to update as we determine the new timeline. We are also in the process of making shifts to the grading window for the remainder of the year. We will make sure students and teachers have an opportunity to close out the 3rd term successfully. More details to follow as we move through technical details and communication planning.

Students are encouraged to complete term 3 assignments if possible. Students enrolled in credit recovery should continue to work through their coursework as much as possible. Teachers will be in contact to provide support.

Will my child be required to take state assessments (ACT-Aspire, Forward Exam, Dynamic Learning MAPS)?

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will apply for a waiver from federal requirements to administer statewide assessments to all students. The School District of Beloit will continue to monitor the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) decisions regarding state testing.

Will my child be able to take AP Exams?

Yes, the CollegeBoard is working on several solutions to provide instructional support and several options for students to complete the assessment. High School staff contact students enrolled in AP courses with more information. The School District of Beloit is working with BMHS staff to find creative ways for students with limited access to devices and/or internet access to take the exam(s).

FOR SENIORS

Will my child be able to graduate?

We understand the importance of this milestone event for students and families. The School District of Beloit continues to look to the Department of Public Instruction for guidance on this topic and share



updates as we have more information. At this time, we are unsure of how graduation ceremonies will be handled.

What if my high school senior has not completed the Civics Exam? Will he/she still be able to graduate?

The School District of Beloit will apply for a waiver from the Department of Public Instruction. Class of 2020 seniors will not be required to complete the Civics Exam in order to be eligible for graduation.

My child was scheduled to take the ACT exam for college admittance. What do I do?

For all ACT related questions, please refer to the ACT website - act.org.

What will happen to my child’s college admission status?

[NACAC College Admission Status Update](#) - The National Association of College Admissions Counselors are providing this online tool as a central resource for information about changes in college admission events, deposit dates, and more as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. For any college-specific related questions, please reach out to the Admissions Department at that school.

Can we still request transcripts?

Yes, you may complete a transcript request online through [Parchment](#).

Transcript requests may take up to 3 business days to process.

There is a \$5 fee per transcript ordered.

What if I have questions or need assistance with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA)?

If you have questions regarding the FAFSA please contact your student’s counselor via email:

ANGELA SNOW - HHES ACADEMY

Email: asnow@sdb.k12.wi.us

ERIN WOLF - BACH ACADEMY

Email: ewolf@sdb.k12.wi.us

TRUDY HART - PACMES ACADEMY

Email: thart@sdb.k12.wi.us

TYREE GAMBLE (FRESHMAN COUNSELOR)

Email: tgamble@sdb.k12.wi.us

We recognize that this is a hardship for many of our families. We hope that you remain safe during this time and follow the [guidelines](#) provided by the Rock County Health Department. Please continue to monitor the School District of Beloit website for the most current information.

With Kind Regards,

Sue Green and Bill Beckley
Interim Co-Superintendents