



Jacksonville | North Pulaski SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.jnpsd.org

Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day

February 2, 2021

2:37 pm

JNPSD School Community:

Please continue to stay informed through all of our postings on JNP social media, JNP website, local media, and other communication outlets. All community updates, official documents, and other information posted since March 6, 2020 are available for your reference.

Governor's Press Conference (APSRC Report)

"We are still in phase 1-B which we're focusing on Arkansans 70 years of age and older, our education workers K-12, higher education and childcare. We're working very hard. I hope that soon we will be comfortable in saying we have completed our education, our teachers, but we've got some more work to do to make sure that they have the access and they have the clinics that are set up to accomplish that," the Governor said.

After speaking with Biden's Coronavirus Task Force, Governor Hutchinson said he has been told Arkansas will receive an additional 5 percent increase in vaccine supplies beginning this week. This is in addition to the 16 percent increase the state received last week.

Arkansans will also have an additional avenue to obtain vaccinations through a partnership between the Coronavirus Task Force and Walmart. As a preferred federal supplier, Walmart will receive 10,000 doses beginning February 11 to be distributed in 60 stores across Arkansas.

"This is the beginning of that process. I want to caution everyone they will start receiving them most likely on February 11. So it's that week timeframe that they will begin the process of getting those doses out, and again this is over and above our state allocation and we're delighted to have that partnership. It will be another source of vaccine administration for our 70-plus and others that want to utilize that service and opportunity," Governor Hutchinson said.

Arkansas Department of Education Deputy Director Dr. Ivy Pfeffer shared a story about a photo she received from a kindergarten class from Springdale School District celebrating their 100th day of school.

"This picture reminded me of the concept of 100 days has come to hold special meaning for students in Arkansas schools because it signals that they have met important learning goals in their first 100 days. ... That's a measure of success that we all really have to think of and be

proud of because it's not a success that students all across the nation are getting to experience. It's because of the leadership of our Governor, from other state officials and from our schools that our students have had the possibility to have learning with relatively few interruptions," Dr. Pfeffer said.

Dr. Pfeffer shared 74 percent of schools and 56 percent of districts have not had to implement large-scale modifications this school year.

Dr. Pfeffer said that there is no waiver from the federal requirement for statewide year-end assessments for the 2020-2021 school year, and that there is no process to seek a waiver from testing.

"The focus of Arkansas spring testing this year is not on the accountability piece of federal and state testing requirements but on the data that we need to inform educational leaders, policymakers, and families about the impact of COVID-19 on the academic growth of our students. The ADE supports legislation to waive the A to F rating scale for the 2020-2021 school year. This effort is not to minimize the importance of results but to support that the results should be used as a flashlight to highlight opportunities for improvement. It's critical that we make the most out of every learning opportunity during the next few months to continue what we began in August - an aggressive and coordinated assault against the virus' attempt to negatively impact student learning opportunities," Dr. Pfeffer said.

1. Student registration is open. We are using an online registration system. Parents can access the system at www.jnpsd.org. Please contact your child's school if you have any questions.
2. Parents: Please watch for announcements concerning PreK registration for the 21-22 school year. If you have questions, please contact Homer Adkins PreK Center at 982-3117 or email Ms. Heather Williams at hwilliams@jnpsd.org.
3. Please look for future announcements regarding digital learning / virtual school options for JNP scholars for the 21-22 school year.
4. Reminder: The last day of school for this school year is June 3.

We appreciate your support of JNPSD!

Respectfully,



Bryan Duffie, Ed.D.
Superintendent