

March 15, 2020

Dear School Lane Elementary Families,

First and foremost, thank you to everyone who worked so collaboratively with us as we navigated this uncharted territory as a school this past week. I would like to personally thank our CEO, Mrs. Schade, for her leadership this past week as well as the rest of the administrative team and the teachers for the stability and comfort they provided to our students. Also, thank you to our families for their support and dialogue throughout the week. The week started in a very different place than where it ended, and I am grateful for the community here at School Lane during such uncertain times.

I am sure all of you have many questions right now and hopefully the information below will give you some answers. Please keep in mind that this is an ever-evolving situation, so things will change. I promise to do my best to keep all of you informed as best I can throughout.

Q: How will this closure affect the school calendar?

A: The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has state that "no school district will be penalized if it fails to meet the 180 day or school hours requirements." Spring break remains a part of the calendar as is and will take place April 9, 2020 to April 13, 2020. We do not foresee a change in the end of the school year, though we will not be able to make a final determination until are schools are open and we have greater clarity from the state.

Q: When will meetings be rescheduled?

A: All parent/guardian meetings, including IEP, Kindergarten Registration, school meetings, etc., will be rescheduled once the School Lane reopens.

Q: Should students continue schoolwork over the next two weeks?

A: Our team will be spending the next week developing meaningful activities for your children to do to continue their learning as best they can while at home. You can expect a message via Remind from your teacher on the morning of Monday, March 23rd with 1-2 tasks to do each day. If the closure goes on for longer than 2 weeks, we may increase the amount of tasks each day to make up for a more significant loss of academic time.

Q: Will the school work be done online? What if we don't have access to computer/internet?

A: Yes, some of the tasks we will ask students to do will require access to a computer and internet. For those that do not have access, we will be working on an alternate plan that we will rollout as well this week. Comcast is offering free 60 day internet for low income families during the outbreak with a self-install kit, To sign up, you can visit www.internetessentials.com or call 1-855-846-8376 (English) or 1-855-765-6995 (Spanish).

Q: Can we go into the school to pick up academic work?

A: No. As of today, the message from the Governor's office is that all buildings are closed to all employees. We will contact families should we be permitted to open the building for a short period of time at some point.

Q: My child has medicine that is at school, what should we do?

A: Please contact your medical provider and/or insurance carrier for instructions on how to request a refill. Again, the message from the Governor's office is that all buildings are closed.

Q: How can students who rely on school lunch get food?

A: Children can enjoy delicious free breakfasts and lunches provided by the Bensalem Township School District Food Service Department. The district will utilize its Summer Food Service Program eligibility through a waiver from the State to serve children 18 years and younger during this closure. A bagged grab and go breakfast and lunch will be available at the below locations from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm beginning on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 (Monday through Friday) through March 27th. Children must be present to receive meals.

Absolutely no application is necessary! Meals are completely free and anyone is welcome to come to the designated locations. No one will be permitted to enter the buildings. Meals will need to be picked up and taken home. Vegetarian options will be available. Our goal is to make sure all children have access to healthy food during the closure, and come back ready and nourished to learn.

Bring your children or tell a friend - Children must be present to receive meals.

Locations are listed below:

Belmont Hills Elementary School

Distributed in Main Entrance Bus Zone
5000 Neshaminy Boulevard
Bensalem, PA 19020

Russell C. Elementary School

Distributed in Main Entrance Bus Zone
4300 Bensalem Boulevard
Bensalem, PA 19020

Samuel K. Faust Elementary School

Distributed in Main Entrance Bus Zone
2901 Bellview Drive
Bensalem, PA 19020

Bensalem High School

Flag Pole Entrance
4319 Hulmeville Road
Bensalem, PA 19020

Benjamin Rush Elementary School

Distributed in Main Entrance Bus Zone
3400 Hulmeville Rd
Bensalem, PA 19020

Creekside Apartment Complex

Community Center
2500 Knight's Road
Bensalem, PA 19020

Q: What is happening in the buildings while school is closed?

A: During the two weeks SLCS buildings are closed, we will performing a very deep cleaning of the entire building. This means we will be using a CDC recommended cleaners for COVID-19 on all desks, chairs, shelves, lockers, doors, tables, handles, tile floors and carpets to assure a safe return for all students.

I realize there are many more questions to be answered and likely many new questions that have not even been thought of yet. We will be doing our very best to communicate with you proactively. At the very least, you can expect an update by Friday, March 20th laying out clear expectations of what student classwork will look like during the week of March 23rd. I thank you again for your support and I wish you and your family the very best in the coming days.

Sincerely,



David Robinson, M. Ed.
Principal – Elementary Campus