



DISTRICT OFFICE
655 SOUTH COMMERCIAL AVENUE, SMITHVILLE, MO 64089
P: (816) 532-0406
F: (816) 532-4192
SmithvilleSchoolDistrict.net

March 16, 2020

Dear Warrior Families,

The safety and health of our school communities are of utmost concern as we continue to carefully monitor the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). ***The Smithville School District (SSD) is closing our schools as a precautionary measure to slow the spread of the COVID-19. The SSD will be closed for 3 weeks, with classes scheduled to resume April 6 unless we communicate otherwise.***

This is an unprecedented situation, and we appreciate your patience and understanding as we respond and work to support our students, families, and staff throughout the closure.

Closure Reminders

All SSD school building activities are canceled, with plans to resume Monday, April 6. This includes,

- Regular on-site school day instruction. The SSD will execute the [Continuation of Learning Plan](#) during this closure beginning Monday, March 23.
- All district- and school-hosted public events are canceled. This includes spring parent/teacher conferences and Spring Showcases.
- After-school and extracurricular activities for students including after-school clubs, and sports.
- All out of district field trips are canceled.
- Innovation Learning student after-care programs. Families will not be charged fees during this closure.
- The use of school facilities by outside groups and events hosted by outside groups that use our facilities in the evenings or on the weekends will be canceled.
- IEP & 504 Meetings: Teachers have been asked to reschedule any IEP and 504 meetings for after April 6, 2020. They should be reaching out to you in the next couple of days to set up a new meeting date.

Student Meal Supports

Our priority is the basic needs of students and families. Starting Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 3, we will be serving “grab and go” breakfast and lunch available to **all** students (PK-12). “Grab and go” meals will be served curbside at Horizon Elementary between the hours of 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please drive up along the front entrance (bus loop) and our staff will come to

your vehicle to take your order (click here to view a [menu](#)). Our staff will bring the grab and go meals to your vehicle. Please bring your student ID or lunch number. Meal pricing will be the same as when school is in session. This means free and reduced lunch rates apply.

Continuation of Learning Plan

The SSD will execute the [Continuation of Learning Plan](#) during this closure beginning Monday, March 23. The Continuation of Learning Plan can be found on our website at www.smithvilleschooldistrict.net.

For any students who do not have regular access to the internet, we will also be providing aligned, printed activities at all of our schools beginning Monday, March 23. Building principals will communicate office hours for pick up. Printed materials will continue to be provided, as needed, as long as our schools are closed due to COVID-19.

The SSD is first and foremost an institution of learning. While these activities are not a replacement for classroom instruction, we are committed to providing educational opportunities for students throughout this closure.

Access to Technology/Chromebooks

High School and Middle School students will use their District provided 1:1 device during the school closure. Parents/guardians with students in grades Kindergarten through 6th grade who do not have technology at home can request a device by completing this form. If you have already completed the form, there is no need to complete the form a second time.

[Technology Request Form](#)

Parents/guardians must complete this form to pick up and check out a Chromebook from the Smithville Performing Arts Center. The following dates and times are available for Chromebook pickup.

- Friday, March 20 - 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Monday, March 23 - 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 24 - 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Parents/guardians will need to sign a waiver for Chromebooks. This will take place through the front entrance of the Smithville Performing Arts Center.

Wireless Access

Wireless access can be utilized from the parking spots that are closest to the building. Please note, we do not want to bring groups or crowds together so be mindful and do not gather or congregate.

Supporting Students' Wellbeing

As more information is learned and shared about the spread of COVID-19, you may notice your child experiencing a wider range of emotions such as worry and fear. With the closure of schools some children might also experience sadness and

frustration at not being able to interact with their friends and school staff on a regular basis. There are many steps you can take to support your child during these uncertain times. Here are some ideas for families:

- Reassure your child that all feelings are normal.
- Make time to talk with your child about their feelings and questions ([Talking to Children About COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\): A Parent Resource](#)).
- Limit screen time and access to social media.
- Pay attention to what your child is watching and reading and for how long.
- Model positive self-care strategies, your child is learning how to manage their emotions from the caring adults in their life.
- Provide honest information that is age appropriate and avoid sharing assumptions about who is sick with COVID-19.
- Work with your child to develop a consistent “new” daily routine, samples will be provided early next week.

Last Day of School

At this time, we are weighing our options to ensure the last day of school remains Friday, May 29, 2020.

Communication

Regular communication will continue through our website www.smithvilleschooldistrict.net as well as our School Messenger communication system. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the District Office at 816.532.0406.

If you have additional questions you may find answers using the links below.

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
 - [Steps to Prevent Illness](#)
 - [Symptoms of COVID19](#)
 - [Prevent the Spread of COVID19](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services](#)
 - [Additional resources are also available such as what schools should know about coronavirus](#)
- [Clay County Health Department](#)

This is a continually evolving situation, and we will provide updates as additional, relevant information is available. Stay safe and healthy, Warrior Family!

Sincerely,



Todd Schuetz, Ed.D
Superintendent