April 1, 2020

Dear Parents, Students and Charlton County Community,

This afternoon, Georgia’s Governor, Brian Kemp, issued an executive order closing all Georgia schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, all Charlton County Schools will be closed, and it is anticipated we will return in August.

We will continue our current offering of digital resources for those students who have the capability to access the digital environment. For those without connectivity or computer resources, we will continue to provide printed packets to our students. The current resources are good through the end of April. We will release new resources the last week of April that will give our students work through May. Our Grab ‘N Go Lunch and Snack Program will continue, however, there will be no delivery next week because of Spring Break. More details will be released as soon as possible.

To the Senior Class of 2020, I want you to know that we are all heartbroken over this situation. Rest assured, the Charlton County Board of Education and our entire community will continue to celebrate you. A graduation ceremony will be held as soon as we are allowed to do so.

For the best information related to COVID-19, we encourage you visit the following websites:

✓ https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus

We will continue to update our web page https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/ with COVID-19 information.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
4:15 P.M.
March 26, 2020

Dear Parents,

This morning, Georgia’s Governor, Brian Kemp, issued an executive order extending the closure of Georgia schools through April 24, 2020. Therefore, all Charlton County Schools will be closed, and it is anticipated we will return to school on Monday, April 27, 2020.

Our plan is to enhance our current offering of digital resources for those students who have the capability to access the digital environment. For those without connectivity or computer resources, we will provide printed packets to our students next week. These packets will be delivered to areas of our community in coordination with the Grab ‘N Go Lunch and Snack Program. More details will be released as soon as possible.

For the best information related to COVID-19, we encourage you visit the following websites:

- [https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/coronavirus.aspx](https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/coronavirus.aspx)
- [https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus](https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus)

We will continue to update our web page [https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/](https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/) with COVID-19 information. This situation continues to evolve daily and information will be provided as necessary.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
1:15 P.M.
March 24, 2020

Dear Parents,

Yesterday, Georgia’s Governor, Brian Kemp, issued an executive order to ban all gatherings of more than 10 people through Monday, April 6, 2020. Therefore, all Charlton County Schools will be closed through Friday, April 10, 2020. Our spring break was originally scheduled for April 6th-10th, and we will still recognize this planned holiday for our students and staff.

For the best information related to COVID-19, we encourage you visit the following websites:

✓ https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus

We are committed to transparency and will continue to update our web page https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/ with COVID-19 information. This situation continues to evolve and information will be provided as necessary.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
10:00 A.M
SCHOOL CLOSURE UPDATE
3/21/2020

- All Charlton County Schools remain closed until March 31, 2020. Should the closures extend beyond this date all parents will be notified.
- All practices, activities and rehearsals have been canceled until further notice.
- Digital learning resources can be found here: http://charltoncoga.apptegy.us/o/charlton-county/browse/111370 Currently, these resources are provided as optional and are not required assignments, but opportunities for our students to keep learning during this time of closure. Should the closure extend, the school system will seek to provide all our students, especially those without internet and technology access, printed and digital resources that can be used for academic remediation and enhancement.
- The Charlton County School District will begin a Grab ‘N Go Lunch and Snack Program Monday, March 23, 2020. Individuals 18 years of age and younger may pick-up a lunch at two curbside locations, Charlton County High School and St. George Elementary School, between the hours of 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM. Per USDA requirements, the child must be present. Families are reminded to please use Center for Disease Control guidelines as it relates to stopping the spread of COVID-19 when picking up the meals. The school system is exploring other methods to use in the distribution of meals.
- All Charlton County Schools are closed until further notice. Please send an email to charltonschools@charlton.k12.ga.us if you have questions or need further assistance. We are monitoring our phones and receiving messages at 912-496-2596. We will reply to emails and phone messages as soon as possible.
- Additional resources are found here:
  - https://dph.georgia.gov/15-days-slow-spread

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
March 15, 2020

Dear Parents,

Out of an abundance of caution, and with the realization there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Charlton County, the Charlton County School District will close effective Monday, March 16, 2020 until Friday, March 20, 2020. We will evaluate the continual closing of school on a weekly basis as the information surrounding this issue changes rapidly. All school activities, practices and rehearsals are canceled. Decisions concerning make-up days, other school activities and changes in remaining school year calendar will be made at a later date. In addition, information for at home learning resources will be announced tomorrow.

Public health officials continue to advise best every-day healthy practices like frequently washing hands and staying home when you are sick. We are all being encouraged to be protective of the elderly and any medically-fragile family members. For the best information we encourage you visit the following websites: https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus and https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html. Additionally, the Georgia Department of Education has released information at https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/coronavirus.aspx

We are committed to transparency and will continue to update our web page https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/ with COVID-19 information. This situation continues to evolve and information will be provided as necessary.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
12:40 p.m.
Dear Parents,

There have been many calls this morning questioning why our schools are not closing due to the “presumptive positive” COVID-19 test in Charlton County. The Charlton County School District is collaborating closely with the Georgia Department of Education, the Office of Governor Brian Kemp, the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Southeast Health District. We have been advised that students who are not ill can safely attend schools, and there is no recommendation to close our schools. We do not take lightly the decision to close schools as the effects of doing such may place undue burdens on parents and families. Rest assured, however, we are concerned about the safety of our students, and are confident in the advice as given to us by the collaborative agencies.

Public health officials continue to advise best every-day healthy practices like frequently washing hands and staying home when you are sick. For the best information we encourage you visit the following websites: https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus and https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html. Additionally, the Georgia Department of Education has released information at https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/coronavirus.aspx

We are committed to transparency and will continue to update our web page https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/ with COVID-19 information. This situation continues to evolve and information will be provided as necessary.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent
March 11, 2020

Dear Parents,

Please be aware a Charlton County resident has tested “presumptive positive” for COVID-19, and the results have been submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for verification.

This resident does have two close family members who work for our school system, and these individuals will not be in attendance for a recommended time as an appropriate measure to ensure the health and safety of our school population. According to Department of Public Health officials, “the risk of COVID-19 to the general public remains low.” We do not have plans for school closures at this time.

Public health officials continue to advise best every-day healthy practices like frequently washing hands and staying home when you are sick. For the best information we encourage you visit the following websites: https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus and https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html. Additionally, the Georgia Department of Education has released information at https://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/communications/Pages/coronavirus.aspx.

We have been working on additional steps to further improve our existing best practices. Custodians are being provided additional training focused on sanitizing high-touch areas (desktops, keyboards, bathroom fixtures, water fountains, door handles, etc.) with virus-killing products. Custodians and maintenance personnel will be devoting more time to adequately sanitize all areas. We also are working through our school administration and school nurses to ensure students and staff understand and follow best every-day healthy practices like frequently washing hands. Friday is a previously scheduled professional learning day, and there will be no school for students. We will take further steps to deep clean our facilities at this time.

We are committed to transparency and will continue to update our web page https://www.charlton.k12.ga.us/ with COVID-19 information. This situation continues to evolve and information will be provided as necessary.

John D. Lairsey, Ed.D
Superintendent