



ST. HELENA

PARISH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education

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District Vision: To create an equitable, productive school culture that increases student achievement, develops educator effectiveness, and builds public confidence.

What is SHPSD doing?

The St. Helena Parish School District continues to keep the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff as our highest priority. As a school district, we are closely monitoring the coronavirus situation and taking guidance from the Louisiana Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

What are the symptoms?

Illnesses can be mild, or in some cases be severe enough to require hospitalization. Symptoms of this respiratory illness primarily include:



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath

How is it prevented?

Similar to prevention of other respiratory illnesses, including the flu:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available, but note it must be rubbed into skin until dry.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Stay home while you are sick; avoid others.
- Cover mouth/nose with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing, and throw away tissue in trash immediately.

- We have a **disaster operations policy** in place.
- We are using **social media platforms** and other communication tools to share information with our students and their families.
- We developed a **long-term school closure plan** that includes all 3-12th grade students completing their courses on Odysseyware, our online education platform, and paper-based assignments for students who do not have access to the internet or a computer/laptop.
- We use Zoom, an **online video conferencing service**, to communicate with our teachers and staff.
- Our **bus transportation and food service departments are working together to provide delivered meals** to our students throughout the community. We started on MONDAY. We chose this method because we know that situations such as these sheds a spotlight on the inequities our students and their families face every day. We are trying our best to make this as equitable as possible so all our students can receive educational services. So, because we have a roster of all the students who ride the bus and our buses are assigned by school, in addition to the meals, students also receive their assignments from their teachers. The Early Learning Center and Arts and Technology Academy have distributed assignments to particular students today. The packet includes a demographic sheet placed on top as to not mix up student work. This service is now our main point of contact to our students and families.
- We widened the range of WiFi access to our parents by creating a parent access portal. ID: SHPSD Parents, Password: Gohawks1 (available at all schools)
- Teachers are reviewing and maintaining a **consistent online presence** for their students as they complete their assignments.
- Beginning today, our janitors started disinfecting and deep cleaning the facilities.
- We remain in close contact with the St. Helena Office of Emergency Preparedness, the Louisiana Department of Health, and the Louisiana Department of Education. We have been on phone conferences every day since Friday and over the weekend. There was two today.
- To the best of our ability, we will continue to provide as many services as possible to all our students.
- We want to commend our central office staff and school administrators for doing an awesome job at putting a plan in place BEFORE our school closures began. We'd like to commend our teachers, cooks, janitors, bus drivers for going above and beyond to serve as our main points of contact.
- We commend this Board for your leadership as we maneuver through this uncharted territory.
- We ask our parents for their patience and cooperation. We just finished day two of a long school closure.

Dr. Kelli Joseph, Superintendent
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

