

River Forest Parent Information Guide- April 16, 2020

COVID-19 Impact on Schools- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Number	Question	Answer
1	How is RFCSC feeding students while students are away from school buildings?	<p>Many districts are providing food service to students through pick-up or delivery.</p> <p>RFCSC is providing a contact-free pick up option for all families on Wednesdays from 1 to 4 pm – At the back of River Forest Middle-High School.</p> <p>We are very proud of the work that our Food Service staff has done and continues to do for our River Forest students and families.</p> <p>Since this program has been initiated, we have served nearly 20,000 to go breakfasts and lunches.</p> <p>Please contact Lisa Mischke for more information for the food distribution program. Lisa Mischke lmischke@rfcsc.k12.in.us</p>
2	How will state mandated assessment administration be addressed while students are away from school buildings? (Taken from IDOE FAQ)	<p>All taken from Indiana FAQ: State mandated assessments for the 2019-2020 school-year have been canceled.</p> <p>Updated 3.24.2020 Governor Holcomb’s Executive Order 20-05 states, “All state-mandated assessments are cancelled for the 2019-2020 academic year.” This includes the assessments on the above mentioned link, along with the United States Naturalization Exam and dyslexia screening.</p>
3	What is the status of all Indiana Schools?	<p>From the IDOE FAQ: Beginning on Friday, March 20, all Indiana public and nonpublic schools will be closed through May 1. School districts can choose to utilize eLearning continuously or intermittently during this mandatory closure. As a reminder, if eLearning is utilized in any format, schools must adhere to statutory timelines.</p> <p>Updated 4.2.2020 Pursuant to Governor Holcomb’s Executive Order 20-16, all K-12 schools in Indiana shall provide instruction via remote learning for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Schools shall not conduct in-</p>

		<p>person instruction for the remainder of the school year, and school buildings shall remain closed except for the purposes described in Executive Orders 20-04, 20-05, 20-08, and as may be described in any future Executive Orders.</p>
4	<p>Adjusted RFCSC School Calendar</p>	<p>Calendar and E-Learning: The River Forest School Board approved the adjusted school 2019-2020 School Calendar. The last date of E-Learning-Remote Learning will take place on Thursday, May 21st.</p>
5	<p>From IDOE: Do minors need to have a work permit on file with their employer during the mandatory school closure?</p>	<p>From IDOE: The Department of Labor has suspended the requirement for employers to have on file a work permit for minors they employ effective Monday, March 16. This will be in effect until May 1, 2020. Therefore, the Department of Labor and the Bureau of Child Labor inspectors will not hold employers responsible to have a work permit on file for minors employed between the dates of March 16 and May 1.</p>
6	<p>FROM IDOE: Added 4.2.2020 What are the graduation requirements for the 2020 cohort?</p>	<p>FROM IDOE: Guidance pertaining to graduation requirements for the 2020 cohort will be made available on the River Forest High School Web-site. For questions please email Principal Pitcock rpitcock@rfcsc.k12.in.us and or Mr. Moore moorej@rfcsc.k12.in.us</p> <p>From RFHS: As far as earning a diploma goes, the state has said that any 2020 senior who was on track at the end of first semester this year (7th semester total) and is enrolled in the proper course work this year, will be eligible for a diploma. This means that students are currently eligible for their diploma by being enrolled and participating in their current coursework. The high school will be contacting you in the coming weeks to verify diploma eligibility.</p> <p>Please realize seniors who stop now <u>will receive an incomplete</u> on their transcript for their currently enrolled courses as mandated by the state. This could adversely affect college, trades, military and work.</p> <p><u>It is strongly recommended that all seniors finish their course work.</u> The entire faculty of RFHS is here to support them through this time and would also like to see them complete their high school journey in this capacity.</p>

7	What are we doing about Graduation?	<p>Right now our current graduation date, most likely, will be postponed and all plans are on hold. Ideally, we would like to hold a traditional graduation ceremony, but only if and when conditions for that would make it safe for a large number of people to attend.</p> <p>We are also exploring options for how can we celebrate the monumental achievement of our seniors? How can we recognize our Seniors? Dr. Pitcock is forming a committee of faculty to explore and brainstorm ideas. Dr. Pitcock and Mrs. DeRolf will conduct a virtual meeting with our senior class officers to talk about ideas.</p>
8	What are we doing about Dual Credit?	<p>Ivy Tech: Dual Credit (DC) Programming: The College is committed to ensuring that DC students are able to earn college credit for the courses in which they are enrolled this semester while maintaining academic standards. This requires continued partnership with our DC teachers to ensure that the Ivy Tech course learning objectives are covered though e-learning delivery. Teachers are reviewing the Course Outline of Record for the course(s) they are teaching, self-assessing progress toward coverage of the required objectives, and developing plans for covering the remaining objectives.</p>
9	What are we doing about Prom?	<p>We have canceled our physical prom date because of safety and stay at home requirements. The High School is exploring other options.</p>
10	Spring Sports Season? Fall Sports Season and Summer	<p>The IHSAA has canceled the Spring Sports Season. We will be looking for guidance from the IHSAA regarding summer sports training and Fall Sports.</p> <p>For Questions please contact the Athletic Director awielgus@rfcsc.k12.in.us</p>
11	How do I pick up things that I have ordered through the school?	<p>Please email your child's building principal regarding any specific questions pertaining to this.</p>

12	E-Learning Program	For the past several years, River Forest Schools have been working diligently to deliver a one-to-one device initiative and to offer blended learning to our students. This year was the first year in meeting that goal. Our Technology Team worked last year to develop a plan and teachers participated in training last summer. Our goal this year was to implement a limited E-Learning program for this school year to be utilized for a small number of inclement weather days. Because of the Pandemic Crisis, we have had to implement E-Learning and Remote Learning for the remainder of the school year.
13	Student Devices and Extended E-Learning?	Our goal this year was to begin a pilot program with some high school students, with taking devices home, to utilize the data, to develop a plan for next school year for expanded opportunity for students to take devices home during E-learning times and extended necessary curriculum work.
14	Why couldn't devices be sent home before?	Again, we were not prepared for this pandemic. Currently, when students utilize the devices at school, content is filtered through our wireless network. In order for the devices to be filtered when taking the devices off-campus, filtering software needed to be purchased and installed. Our plan called for this being completed this summer at the end of the school year. There were also many logistical concerns with how a program would look.
15	E-Learning and Remote Learning Review	In each of our buildings we have monitored our students' progress, including student access. Which students have been able to complete work? Which students are having difficulty and do not have access to devices? Teachers and schools have worked to provide traditional remote learning packages to students.
16	Emergency Plan to meet students technology needs	After the Governor made the decision that our school closure would not be a temporary closing and would take place for the remainder of the year, our technology department began working on obtaining software and preparing devices for student pick-up. Our first goal was to develop a plan for high school students in need, to ensure they could complete course requirement. The Technology Team and Dr. Pitcock have completed this work and have contacted students for pick-up.
17	Emergency Student Device Plan	While our resources are limited, and logistics challenging, we are making devices to be ready for pick-up next week for each school in the district. We would ask families to please work with us. We will have 150 devices available for each school. We are first working with students with no access, or limited access. Ultimately, our goal will be to provide at least one Chromebook per family based upon needs.

<p>18</p>	<p>How will I know about getting the device</p> 	<p>Each building principal is working on a plan and you should receive information about this. If you have a question please email your building principal.</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>How can I clean out my locker or my desk?</p> 	<p>Plan coming May 4, 2020 (This means we will release on May 4, 2020 a plan for how items will be picked up and dropped off. Pick up and drop off will not occur on May 4.)</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>Are grades still going to count?</p>	<p>All high school grades will be counted on the student's transcript. All high school students need to earn the state required credits.</p> <p>SENIORS: Please be aware that it is unclear how colleges, trades, and the military will view your diploma. It is important that you finish your final credits. Seniors will be given credit for classes they are currently enrolled in and will be contacted regarding diploma eligibility</p> <p>Please realize seniors who stop now <u>will receive an incomplete</u> on their transcript for their currently enrolled courses as mandated by the state. This could adversely affect college, trades, military and work.</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>How will I get my students medication from the school?</p> 	<p>If you have an immediate need, please email our Head School Nurse Mrs. Thompson. pthompson@rfcsc.k12.in.us</p> <p>Future information for pick-up will be forthcoming.</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>What about kindergarten round-up?</p>	<p>Please email Meister Elementary principal Mr. Worthington eworthington@rfcsc.k12.in.us or Evans Elementary principal Mrs. Swanson dswanson@rfcsc.k12.in.us</p> <p>KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: Information and plan still being worked on and considered.</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>What about registration for the 2020-2021 school year?</p>	<p>We will hold online registration for all school buildings for the 2020-2021 school year.</p> <p>Information will be published from each building about each specific online registration process and dates.</p>

24	How will final GPA be calculated for 2020 graduates?	The GPA will be counted for all courses that have been completed.
25	Will RFHS recognize a Valedictorian and Salutatorian and/or cum laude status in the Class of 2020? If so, how will those honorees be determined?	Yes. This will follow our process as outlined by the High School.
26	Will RFCSC still be accepting transfer students for the 2020-2021 school year?	Yes. Please contact Tracy Paradise at tparadise@rfcsc.k12.in.us if you have questions regarding a student who would like to transfer to RFCSC.
27	Who should I contact if I have questions about my grades or attendance?	Please start with checking Harmony. If you have further questions, please contact your teacher directly.
28	What if I have a case conference scheduled?	Special education services will be provided throughout the school closure. If there are questions about these services, please contact the student's teacher of record. Case conference meetings will be held via phone or on a virtual platform.
29	What about NCAA eligibility?	NCAA put out guidance. It can be found here: http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/EC_COVID_Comm.pdf?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=
30	How will library books be returned? 	Plan coming in May.