



Jacksonville | North Pulaski
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.jnpsd.org

Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day

March 20, 2020

JNPSD School Community:

As we monitor the latest development of the COVID-19 situation, I am very proud of our staff and community members who step up to provide support for our scholars and their families. I have seen amazing, creative things happen over the last few days, and I know we all will prevail when the crisis subsides.

Please refer to previous updates that are posted on our website (www.jnpsd.org) and our social media outlets. Please view the March 20 video update that is posted on social media and our website.

If your contact information has changed, please send the correct phone number, address, and/or email to the principal of your school or to the district office. We will have the information updated in eSchool. Email or phone information is on the district website.

1. Our teachers, principals, and curriculum leaders have been working on teaching and learning plans in case schools remained closed from March 30 forward. Since a state decision has been made to continue the state closure, JNPSD will have new information soon concerning Alternative Methods of Instruction days as well as access to lessons, activities, and other information.
2. A technology survey was posted on social media recently for parent feedback. Please complete the survey as soon as possible. We are assessing technology needs in the community.
3. State testing for ACT Aspire and grades K-2 student assessments are canceled. The Arkansas Activities Association has continued the suspension of athletics and activities through April 17 which included practices, etc.
4. The Arkansas Department of Education will make the decision regarding high school seniors meeting graduation requirements and the recommendations on holding or canceling graduation ceremonies. I know this could be disappointing news; however, we must follow the state guidance regarding community spread of COVID-19.

5. Plans are being developed to allow staff access to classrooms to retrieve instructional materials and other items in order to deliver services for Alternative Methods of Instruction. Plans are being developed concerning the distribution of additional AMI packets and other items to parents. We will advise when the plans are finalized.

6. Next week is spring break. I strongly encourage scholars and families to unplug for school work next week. There is no pressure to complete assignments and other activities right now. We need all scholars and families rested, healthy, and strong when we resume operations for AMI days on March 30.

7. Please contact teachers, principals, and other staff by email or phone if you need additional support. We will do what we can to provide that support for your scholar and family.

8. JNPSD has partnered with the Clinton Foundation, World Central Kitchen, City of Little Rock, and City of Jacksonville to provide meals for our scholars during spring break and beyond if necessary. Lunch meals will be provided March 23-27 at sites in the City of Jacksonville. Please contact Kevin House if you need additional information (khouse@cityofjacksonville.net).

We will provide additional information in the coming days on meal availability for the extended closure. JNPSD will provide food service to our scholars in some capacity during the closure.

9. The Arkansas Department of Education has COVID-19 resources available for your review at the following web address: <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/communications/covid-19-information>.

10. Please follow all safeguards as recommended by the Arkansas Department of Health. Please remember to follow the basic healthy habits that have been repeatedly shared: frequent hand-washing, limit physical greetings, practice social distancing, and call your doctor or use the Department of Health/UAMS websites if you need medical advice.

Medical Support:

- a. Healthy.Arkansas.gov – current information from the Arkansas Department of Health
- b. 1-800-803-7847 – 24 hour hotline for COVID-19 questions
- c. uamshealth.com – 24-hour digital connection to healthcare professionals – UAMS
- d. 1-800 -743-3616 – 24-hour hotline for issues related to children's health – ACH

JNPSD will communicate with school community members as soon as updated information becomes available. We truly appreciate your support, patience, and understanding during this extraordinary time.

Respectfully,



Bryan Duffie, Ed.D.
Superintendent