



Jacksonville | North Pulaski
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.jnpsd.org

Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day

March 23, 2020

10:13 pm

JNPSD School Community:

We hope these updates are helpful as our community deals with the COVID-19 issue. The engagement of our scholars and parents is vital as our staff works to provide for educational needs and other needs. I have been impressed with the resolve of our teachers, administrators, and staff to work through this crisis with professionalism and strength. Keep the faith, and we will overcome this.

This week is spring break. I strongly encourage scholars and families to unplug from school work this 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.

JHS Senior Scholars and Families: The Arkansas Department of Education will provide additional information soon regarding further guidance for seniors. Concurrent credit classes and Advanced Placement classes will have extra support provided for our scholars. College Board is considering offering a “take at home” AP exam or rescheduling these exams for a later date. College Board has not finalized these plans at this time. We will work with our university partners to ensure the continued expectations of our scholars are met in these college classes.

1. 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. Stay tuned for updates.

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. Plans will be finalized soon concerning Chromebook access for elementary school scholars. Please know that school staff are working diligently to make sure access is not hindered in the future. More updates are coming soon.

4. I have received inquiries about volunteering to help the effort. If a group or individual is interesting in volunteering to help, please contact Amy Arnone at 501-241-2080 or email aarnone@jnpsd.org. She will take your information and contact you in the future regarding volunteer opportunities.

5. Communication providers are offering free or low-cost internet access for families:

AT&T	https://about.att.com/pages/COVID-19.html
CenturyLink	https://news.centurylink.com/covid-19
Comcast	https://www.xfinity.com/prepare?pc=1
Cox	https://www.cox.com/residential/internet-sem.html
Sprint	https://www.sprint.com/
Suddenlink	https://www.alticeusa.com/news/articles/feature/corporate/altice-usa-brings-free-broadband-k-12-and-college-students-during-coronavirus-pandemic
T-Mobile	https://www.t-mobile.com/news/t-mobile-update-on-covid-19-response
Verizon	https://www.verizon.com/about/news/our-response-coronavirus
Windstream	https://www.windstream.com/products

More details on the offers are posted on the Coronavirus Update page of our website.

6. We are finalizing plans for scholar and parent access to teachers on a regular schedule. These plans will be shared as soon as possible.

7. All activities and events are canceled through April 17. Decisions have not been made concerning major events such as awards assemblies, promotion activities, prom, and graduation. Our scholars, parents, and community members will have a chance to provide ideas on alternatives for these types of events. More information coming soon.

8. Please stay informed through local media channels and updates from the Arkansas Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. Some resources include:

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/communications/covid-19-information>.

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov>

1-800-803-7847: 24-hour hotline for COVID-19 questions

www.uamshealth.com

1-800 -743-3616: 24-hour hotline for issues related to children's health

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html

www.cdc.gov/handwashing

www.jnpsd.org

Respectfully,



Bryan Duffie, Ed.D.
Superintendent