



## Family Information Related to COVID-19 and School Closures Bulletin #6 - March 28, 2020

Dear Whitnall Families:

The rules and laws from which we normally operate are being changed daily and the interpretation and implementation of those changes requires continual adjustment. Our administrative team has been in constant contact with the Department of Public Instruction, professional associations, legal counsel, and other school districts to understand all of the implications. This past week, state and federal waivers were announced and we are assessing the impact on Whitnall School District. Here are some specific details we can share at this time:

- All state-required student assessments for the remainder of this school year have been canceled.
- Information about Advanced Placement testing was emailed to high school students and families on Friday, March 27.
- DPI is no longer requiring that school districts formally take and report attendance. However, we will be observing engagement in weekly online learning activities starting on April 6 to ensure all students are participating and progressing. More about this from building principals once a weekly academic schedule is shared (no later than April 3).
- No decisions have been made regarding prom or graduation.
- No decisions have been made regarding summer school.
- Any refunds for prepaid items such as field trips and athletic fees will be determined once a return to school date is established.
- Families will be notified of any personal belongings that were not picked up over the past two weeks. These notifications will be in an email from each building with more details about future pickup.

We have been communicating and working with our educators over the past two weeks to prepare them for the transition to a virtual learning environment. We surveyed all our educators to measure comfort and experience with online learning and technology tools and used the survey results to assist in our timeline and planning. Educator training and transition begins on March 30. They will be working on consistent technology delivery systems as well as planning for activities, learning outcomes, assessments, feedback, and communication in modes that are entirely new to them. We hope you will join us in supporting our educators in this significant undertaking.

During the week of March 30, as teachers begin to work in their virtual learning environments, there will be expectations for students to test technology tools. We have created a [schedule](#) in order for families to plan for this upcoming week. More details about daily activities to test technology tools will be shared each day this week through teacher communications. This schedule is being shared now to help you plan ahead.

- [Click here](#) for our Virtual Learning Resources page. This page will be continually updated.
- [Click here](#) for our COVID-19 resources page. You can find previous bulletins, meal pickup information, and important contact information. Link for the March 30 weekly schedule is located on this page.

We are grateful for the understanding and patience shown by our families as we rapidly transition our learning to an online platform. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or a building principal.

*Lisa L. Olson*

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Superintendent