

MASON CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dave Versteeg
Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Superintendent of Schools, Mason City Community School district
DATE: March 18, 2020
RE: Emergency Closure Update – COVID-19

As we complete Day 3 of the district's emergency operating plan response to the COVID-19 Emergency School Closure, continued communication with our families is still one of our top priorities. **Moving forward, we are asking our families** to access the district website at masoncityschools.org for updates. All updates are listed in the COVID-19 Emergency Closure Updates article on the home page and will continue to add updates as they are available. The school notification system will be utilized for specific, urgent information and updates that need to be shared with our families. Please continue to call 641-450-5001 or email sdeike@masoncityschools.org with any questions or concerns.

Here are the updates for today, Wednesday, March 18, 2020:

Calendar Information and Timelines

K-6 Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled for March 30 and April 2 are postponed.

Mason City High School Instrumental Music trip cancelled. Staff are contacting organization to discuss refund options. More information will be shared as available.

Miscellaneous Other

Student Personal Item Pick Up: There have been several inquiries about picking up items that were left at school before break. At this time, the district is not organizing a curbside pickup or other type of pickup for student personal items, i.e. locker items, band instruments, etc. This decision is based on the Cerro Gordo County Public Health Department's recommendations to keep families and students away from social gatherings and the Governor's declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency and the recommendation to reduce the risk to our community and limiting exposure.

The district's priority right now is to ensure our students have necessary medical and basic needs met through providing them food and any medications left at school. We will reconsider the student personal items pick up at a later date as we have a better understanding of how our community is responding to the precautionary measures.

Remember, to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, the CDC recommends the following actions:

- Frequently wash your hands for 20 seconds or more with soapy water. If unavailable, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Providing quality education for ALL in a caring and responsive environment.

Important Links for your family:

Talking to Children About COVID-19 (Coronavirus): A Parent Resource

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

Iowa Department of Public Health

<https://idph.iowa.gov/>

CDC Website

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

Cerro Gordo Public Health

<https://cghealth.com/>