

# MASON CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Center, 1515 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Mason City, Iowa 50401-6053  
641-421-4401

Dave Versteeg  
Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Superintendent of Schools, Mason City Community School District  
DATE: April 3, 2020  
RE: Emergency Closure Update – COVID-19

Please continue to contact us with your questions and concerns to: 641-450-5001 or email [sdeike@masoncityschools.org](mailto:sdeike@masoncityschools.org).

*The following parent survey request was sent via the PowerSchool notification system today:*

Mason City Community School District is considering all scenarios as we adjust to the closure of school through April 30, 2020. We want to ensure that we are equipped to offer online educational opportunities during this time.

Please take a moment to complete this survey by April 6, 2020.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9-iJufIqXfSMh1mF4-t9cBKN7766EXIFzLWDMb7Vc1J1eIq/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9-iJufIqXfSMh1mF4-t9cBKN7766EXIFzLWDMb7Vc1J1eIq/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## **Here are the updates for today, Friday, April 3, 2020:**

### **Emergency Food Program**

The Emergency Food Program will continue to a twice-weekly schedule of grab and go at Harding and Roosevelt and deliveries.

Monday – Meals for Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday – Meals for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

The program will continue to be from 11 a.m.-1p.m. Deliveries will also be changed to a drop and knock system. Bags will be left at the door. Delivery staff will knock and leave (not waiting for an answer). If delivery is needed, please contact Sarah Mariner, Food Service Supervisor, at 641-421-4501. Children do not have to be present when caregivers pick up meals.

### **Calendar Information and Timelines**

**School Closure Extension:** Governor Reynolds announced during a press conference on Thursday, April 2 that schools should remain closed through April 30.

**MCHS Senior Capstone Presentations:** Cancelled

**Board of Education Special Session and Committee of the Whole meetings on April 6:** The Board of Directors of the Mason City Community School District, State of Iowa, will meet in the Board Room of the Administrative Center, 1515 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Mason City, Iowa 50401, at 5:30 p.m., on the above date. The Board determined that it is impossible and impractical for all members to be physically present at this meeting due to COVID-19 health concerns, and that it is necessary to conduct the meeting by electronic means. The public is discouraged from attending the meeting in person. The Board has provided public access to the electronic conversation. The meeting will be streamed live. You can access the live feed of the meeting at: <https://www.facebook.com/MasonCityCSD/live/> The Special Session does contain a Public Hearing on the 2021-22 Certified Budget at 5:45 p.m. If you would like to make a public comment on the certified budget, please call 641-450-5028 during the hearing and you will be able to make your comment.

### **Student Learning Opportunities**

As you may have heard, Governor Reynolds announced on Thursday, April 2, that schools in Iowa should remain closed through April 30 in response to the COVID-19 crisis. While we are disappointed knowing

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

that it will be several more weeks before we see our students, the safety of our community and state comes first.

Our board will review options outlined by the Iowa Department of Education for continuing learning during the closure, and consider which is the most appropriate path forward for our students, families, and staff. It is our hope to announce a specific plan by no later than April 10.

We know that you have many questions. Rest assured that as soon as we have more specific information about how we will move forward with learning, we will share it with you. Mason City Community School District is committed to ensuring that every student receives the education that s/he deserves.

### **Miscellaneous Other**

A reminder, all district playgrounds are closed to the public as of April 3 until further notice due to the COVID-19 recommendations on social distancing. This includes tracks, practice fields and all outdoor facilities. Thank you for your assistance with practicing safety and social distancing during this time.



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.

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/>