

Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202

We prepare learners for the future.



Administration Center

15732 Howard Street
Plainfield, IL 60544
www.learningcommunity202.org

(815) 577-4008 – telephone
(815) 436-7824 – main fax

UPDATED 3/13/2020

March 9, 2020

Dear District 202 Parents and Guardians,

Per the direction of Governor Pritzker late this afternoon, **all schools will be closed from Tuesday, March 17 through at least April 6th.**

Students should report to school on Monday, March 16th to get the required books and information about E-Learning opportunities explained below. District 202 will follow the direction of the Governor and the State Board of Education regarding educational opportunities while schools are closed. This information will be shared with families.

As you are aware, concern about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to grow. *****Currently, we are not aware of any confirmed Coronavirus cases in our area or school district*****

Plainfield School District 202 will continue to follow the direction from the CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and Will County Health Department (WCHD). The district is in direct communication, weekly, with WCHD. This is an evolving situation; therefore, we will continue adjust and adapt as we receive new information.

Our main goal is always to ensure the health and well-being of our students and staff and keep our children in school so they can continue learning.

This is the most up to date information as of 3/13/2020. We have done our best to answer the most asked questions, based on the best, latest guidance and information available to us. New information is highlighted in YELLOW. Any section that was updated is also noted.

Effective Monday, March 16, 2020

Athletics and Activities – New 3/13/2020

- Athletic practices are cancelled.
- Extracurricular such as clubs, choir, band, etc. are cancelled.
- All athletic games/contests and public performances are postponed until further notice.
- The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) on March 12, 2020, cancelled its remaining winter State Series postseason tournaments, including Boys Basketball, Scholastic Bowl, Drama & Group Interpretation, Music, Debate and Journalism.

eLearning – New 3/13/2020

- Days of non-attendance may be designated as E-Learning days. District 202 has submitted an official E-Learning plan to the Will County ROE. Pending approval, E-Learning days could take the place of emergency days.

Lunch Services in the Event of a School Closing – New 3/13/2020

- If any District 202 schools are closed due to COVID-19, a lunch meal service will be provided from 12 pm to 1 pm for any child 18 years and younger. The meals will be a cold, grab-n-go lunch which will meet the USDA guidelines. Families will be able to come in, grab a lunch and go. The service will be located at the four high school campuses with an assigned door to enter. Families should refer to the letter on the district website regarding lunch services during school closing.

Required Medication Needed During School Closing– New 3/13/2020

Since school will be closed until at least April 6th, if a parent or guardian needs to pick up a student's medication, specifically, a controlled substance or a medication **that cannot be refilled** during that time period:

- Parent/Guardian must contact their building RN on Monday during regular school hours to schedule an appointment for pick-up.
- Student medication will **only be available for pick-up on Tuesday and Wednesday** at your child's building, **by appointment only.**
- Parents will need to provide state identification to pick-up medication.

School Trips/Prom – New 3/13/2020

- All school/field trips are cancelled for the remainder of the school year.
- All trips for athletics or extra-curricular activities are cancelled until April 6th. Direction will be given on the status of trips scheduled after April 6th on a later date.
- Direction on **Prom** will given at a later date. Prom ticket sales are suspended until further notice
- The practice or procedure for the potential refunding of fees related to the cancellations of school, activity, or athletic trips will be reviewed and more information will follow.

Volunteers, Visitors, and Community Use of Facilities – New 3/13/2020

In an abundance of caution, we are implementing the following measures until further notice:

- All volunteers/visitors/ outside speakers in our schools are cancelled.
- Parents/guardians will only be permitted to enter the main doors and report directly to the office if needed for late drop off, checking a student out, or picking up a sick student. Time in the office should be brief and parents/guardians will not be permitted in other areas of the building. This should not be a regular occurrence.
- All Large gatherings are cancelled. These events include all large group meetings such as PTA/PTO, etc.
- Consideration for promotion and graduation ceremonies will be considered at a later date.
- All facility rentals are cancelled. This includes events such as Young Rembrandts, Chess Club, Park District programming, etc.
- **YMCA Kid Zone is closed effective Tuesday, March 17th.** When schools re-open the program will proceed as usual.
- **Election Day will continue as required. The district does not have the authority to cancel or close polling places in the district.** In addition to the normal cleaning/disinfecting that is done daily by our custodial staff, those buildings that are polling places will have all public areas such as restrooms and touch points such as door handles, handrails, push bars etc. cleaned with Virex which is a hospital grade disinfectant.

When School Resumes – Date to Be Determined

Absences When School Resumes – New 3/13/2020

Schools will follow the student handbook for general absences.

Student absences related to COVID-19 will be **excused absences**. These absences will **not count towards truancy or chronic absenteeism**. Absences related to COVID-19 include:

- Families that want to self-quarantine will be permitted without a medical reason.
- Students who are quarantined by a physician
- Students who are diagnosed with COVID-19

Cleaning – Updated 3/13/2020

- In response to Coronavirus (COVID-19), district custodial staff are using a special, stronger disinfectant specifically on all touchpoints.
- District 202 custodial staff clean and disinfect all desktops, tables, doorknobs, handrails, restrooms every night.
- If a school has a confirmed case of COVID-19 the district will contract with a private cleaning company that is prepared to complete the required cleaning and disinfecting.

Homebound Services When School Resumes – New 3/13/2020

Students who are quarantined by a physician or diagnosed with COVID-19 may be eligible for homebound instruction. For information about homebound instruction and eligibility, parents should review the Homebound Manual posted on district website. <http://www.psd202.org/page/homebound>

If a student qualifies, homebound instruction may either be provided

- In person after the student is released to return to school by a physician
- Completed through other means such as Skype or online instruction.

Potential School Closing due to COVID-19 – Updated 3/13/2020

Plainfield School District 202 will follow the direction from the CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and Will County Health Department (WCHD). If we do have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the district, we will begin with closing school for 24 hours at a minimum and working with the WCHD to evaluate our situation and plan to move forward.

Travel – Updated 3/13/2020

At this time, Iran, Northern Italy, South Korea, and specified countries in Europe have travel restrictions due to COVID 19. The district will continue to monitor the list of countries as they are updated. The district does not have any school sponsored trips scheduled out of the country this school year. Here is a link to a website that you can check to see if any countries have been added: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

- Currently, CDC is recommending that people returning from these areas should not attend school for 14 days after the return date.
- If a student or staff member presents at school with a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing after visiting an affected region, school authorities will immediately notify the local health department.

CONTINUING GUIDANCE/INFORMATION

How are We Preparing?

- The district is reviewing and updating emergency operations plans (EOPs). This is being done in collaboration with local health departments and other relevant partners.

- The district has established a committee of staff, administration, and local officials who are working together to review and update our response plans.

Here are a few very important points for your information:

What is Coronavirus?

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. Symptoms typically appear between 2 and 14 days. Most people start showing symptoms about five days after becoming infected. Children typically show mild symptoms. Patients with Coronavirus (COVID-19) have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

How does it Spread?

- Per the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) the virus is thought to spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Who is Impacted the Most?

- Individuals at highest risk include people aged **over 60 years** and those with underlying conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer.
- Disease in children appears to be relatively rare and mild

Prevention

Please remind your student about the need for basic hygiene, most especially covering their mouths when coughing or sneezing. People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available

Monitor and Plan for Absenteeism

- Nursing staff are informed about the symptoms of Coronavirus.
- Students and staff who become sick at school or arrive at school sick are sent home as soon as possible.
- Schools will continue to utilize attendance monitoring procedures.

Communication Plan

The district will share information about Coronavirus (COVID-19) as it becomes available through the CDC, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and Will County Health Department (WCHD).

- Emergency communication, if needed, will be through the Connect ED system via text, email, and phone call if needed.
- The district website has been updated to include verified and reliable information and resources about Coronavirus (COVID-19). This website will be updated regularly. <http://www.psd202.org/announcements/5099>

This is an evolving situation. We will follow the appropriate health organization guidance and communicate as indicated above if any of the health organizations recommend school closures, canceling activities, or dismissing early.

Thank you, as always for everything you do to support your children's learning, achievement and personal growth in District 202. We will continue to keep you informed as this situation develops.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lane Abrell
Superintendent of Schools