



Dear MPSD Families,

We hope you and your loved ones are doing as well as possible during these unprecedented times. Please know we are here to support you however we can. We are writing to let you know that Gov. Tony Evers announced today that all Wisconsin school buildings will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. The state's Safer-at-Home order has been extended until May 26 and under that order, all MPSD school facilities, playgrounds and athletic fields are closed to public access.

What does this mean for you and your family?

MPSD will continue student distance learning

The Manitowoc Public School District will continue at-home distance learning, building on the successes we have seen in recent weeks. We are learning how to connect and support learning for all through a distance learning model and we will get better at it with time. Please give yourself and each other the grace to learn as we go. We are passionate about doing all we can to strengthen relationships with our students, who remain our #1 priority.

MSPD families, don't worry, we've got this! We are so proud of how our students, families and staff have persevered in this challenging situation and are living out our MPSD core values of relationships, compassion, collaboration, dedication, integrity and inspiration. We love seeing photos of our students and staff learning - and playing - in their homes, and will continue to post pictures and videos on our social media accounts.

School meals will continue to be provided

Free meals will continue to be handed out to all students Monday through Friday from 11:30am – 1:00pm at five sites. Bags will include lunch and the following day's breakfast. No forms or registration is required. Parents/guardians can pick up the meals without their children present. We encourage families to practice social distancing and not congregate at the meal pickup locations:

- Franklin Elementary School – 800 South 35th Street
- Jefferson Elementary School – 1415 Division Street
- Madison Elementary School – 701 N. 4th Street
- Monroe Elementary School – 2502 S. 14th Street
- Stangel School – 1002 E. Cedar Avenue

Social/emotional wellbeing is a priority

We care about the social/emotional wellbeing of our students and staff. There are many resources available on our district website at <https://bit.ly/MPSD-social>. School counselors are available virtually to support students. Many students have the option to continue their [school-based mental health work](#) with their therapists virtually. Staff members have access to our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and wellness videos. If you have a student struggling with mental health, please contact your school counselor.

School nurses are available via email and phone to confer about student needs. We will continue to provide occupational and physical therapy, as well as speech and language assistance.

WiFi / Technology assistance is available

If your students are struggling with Wifi access or connecting with [technology for their classes](#), please fill out this form for help: <https://bit.ly/MPSD-tech-help>.

Pickup of personal belongings and return of Chromebooks

We will schedule dates and times for families to pick up any remaining materials and personal belongings that they left at school before our buildings were closed in mid-March, as well as return school-issued Chromebooks and mobile hotspots.

Graduation, Spring Sports, Senior Scholarships, Prom

We know that these important milestone events are top of mind, especially for our seniors, as well as those “graduating” from their elementary and middle schools. Graduation in the historic Lincoln High bowl is a unique experience among high schools and we will do what we can to ensure it happens live, if at all possible. We are planning a virtual Senior Scholarship Night to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of our seniors. We do not have answers yet for you for all of these milestones but discussions are underway. If you have ideas or requests, please let our school leaders know.

Please watch for further communication and check our website for updates at manitowocpublicschools.org/coronavirus and manitowocpublicschools.org/distance_learning. Thank you for your support of our students in their learning and warm wishes to your family.

Sincerely,



Mark Holzman
Superintendent, Manitowoc Public School District