



Minersville Area School District

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Carl G. McBreen, Ed.D., Superintendent
Jennifer C. Laudeman, Business Manager

March 26, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds all of you safe and healthy. The closure of schools has had a devastating effect on the learning process for all students in the Commonwealth as well as across the continental United States. Over the past week, It has become apparent that social distancing has become very difficult for us all, especially our children. I understand that there are many questions circulating through the community related to the status of the 2019-2020 school year. I have consulted with my administrative team and have directed them to research, develop, and implement a “Continuity of Education Plan” for our students.

At this time, we have the following updates to share:

(1) When are we going to go back to school? Under the new timeline, school would reopen at the earliest on April 7 for two days to allow school administrators, teachers, and other staff time to prepare classrooms, set up cafeterias, schedule transportation and arrange other business operations. Students would return to school on April 9, unless extending the closure is needed in response to the situation with the virus. There are no other definitive answers on calendars. Rest assured, when we know more information, we will share it.

(2) Are we going to take standardized tests? The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) announced the cancellation of statewide assessments for the 2019-2020 school year, which includes PSSA, PASA, and Keystone Exams.

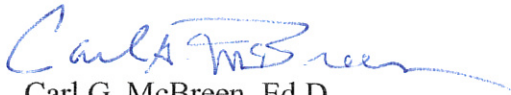
(3) Are we going to have Continuity of Education? Continuity of Education is the overarching term for any educational practices that occur in the event of a prolonged school closure. It is important that students have the opportunity to develop and maintain skills while away from the customary school environment.

Please Note: The Minersville Area School District will use Enrichment and Review that consists of informal activities that reinforce or extend students’ prior learning. New standards and skills are not addressed through Enrichment and Review. At this time there will be nothing more than communication and a slow methodical rollout of an enrichment and review plan for students.

If the closure is ultimately extended beyond our spring break, our moving target is to be operating in a fully functioning enrichment and review plan moving forward. We will attempt to work through the obstacles in order to offer educational services to all of our students.

Thank you for your continued support during this very difficult time. Stay safe!

Sincerely,



Carl G. McBreen, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
MINERSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT