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# Port Edwards Public Schools

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[www.pesd.k12.wi.us](http://www.pesd.k12.wi.us)

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March 27, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

First, I thank you for your continued patience during the school closure, to be sure, we too at school are seeking answers to questions regarding how long this shut down will last. Staff is certainly eager to return to school as I am sure that families are also eager to see students return to school. No specific date has been provided to schools, but rest assured that once the closure orders are lifted, we will be ready to resume operations.

On March 24, 2020, Governor Evers issued [Emergency Order #12 Safer At Home](#). There are some changes that have been made to school operations as a result of this order, but the impact to students or parents and guardians should be minimal. We will continue this Monday, March 30 to provide educational opportunities for our students in the off-campus format that was previously put into place. I know that teachers and staff are eager to reconnect with students and families.

School employees have been directed to work from home to the fullest extent possible. This will result in very limited office hours at the school buildings. However, you can still contact staff via email and by leaving phone messages, staff will be able to access their messages. Limited staff perform essential functions will continue to report to work at our buildings, but with this limited staff, the buildings will be closed to visitors. If there is something that needs to be retrieved from school yet, please contact your child's principal to make those arrangements.

As a reminder, food service operations will begin again this next week on Monday, March 30. **Grab-N-Go Meal Service** will be offered at **John Edwards Middle/High** at the bus lobby/gymnasium entrance on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. For next week, hours of service will be **10:00am to 1:00pm** on Monday through Friday. Please note, that the hours and days of service may change as early as April 6<sup>th</sup> as our staff determines how to provide this service in a more efficient manner. Further, note that as we resume this program, food service staff will be making changes to how meals are served in order to limit social contact.

This past week, we did receive notice that the State received a waiver from the Federal government regarding the completion of testing requirements. That means that students will not be required to complete State testing this spring. Further, the Department of Public Instruction has communicated that schools may apply for a waiver of the hours and minutes of instruction requirements due to this ongoing health crisis, this would mean that students would not have to make up time. As we continue with the off-campus format, we will continue to review and refine this approach Your individual school will provide updates on the learning expectations and processes.

Finally, we recognize that some families may be experiencing particularly difficult hardships the longer these circumstances continue. We will continue to focus on helping families connect with appropriate resources to receive whatever support they may need to help see them through. Please reach out to your school to express any concerns or unmet needs that you may have so that they can direct you to resources that may be helpful.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we work through this time.

Sincerely,

Kyle Cronan, District Administrator