

Wareham Public Schools is closed from March 16 – April 7, 2020. All school-related activities have been canceled.

March 17, 2020

Dear Wareham School Community,

Since we learned of the virus, listened to the Governor, monitored health events on the CDC website, noted the fast-changes are occurring daily, we have been creating documents to address teaching and learning (academic, social/emotional, and enrichment) for our students.

A DRAFT document was created and completed last Tuesday, providing information about teaching and learning while not in session. The document has been shared with Principals, Department Chairs, and the Wareham Education Association. We are working collectively to create the best possible opportunities for our students. As this week (March 16- 20) is considered “snow days” (will be made up at the end of the year, which ends June 22, 2020), we have not provided academic work or enrichment for students. We have taken this week for our teachers and staff to prepare their material, which will be shared with students. This will begin on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Information will be shared very shortly.

Parents and Guardians: We need your help...

MOST IMPORTANTLY: In order for all to return to school, SOCIAL DISTANCING is a MUST.

It means not shaking hands, avoiding crowds, standing several feet from other people, and, most importantly, staying home if you feel sick. Businesses are doing it when they ask employees to work from home or stagger work hours. Governments are doing it when they close schools. The sports world has canceled events. Museums, theaters, and concert halls where large groups of people gather are closing their doors (retrieved March 17, 2020, npr.org).

It is vital to STOP the virus, and there are a variety of factors that must be considered at this time.

Governor Baker indicated that if our children congregate, this will all be for naught.

1. Please consider establishing a routine for your children to follow (examples will be posted on the webpage coming soon).
2. WBGH television has offered all free academic services during this time. If you do not have Internet, please have your children watch WGBH at the subscribed times.

Xfinity WiFi Free For Everyone: Xfinity WiFi hotspots across the country will be available to anyone who needs them for free – including non-Xfinity Internet subscribers. For a map of Xfinity WiFi hotspots, visit www.xfinity.com/wifi. Once at a hotspot, consumers should select the “xfinitywifi” network name in the list of available hotspots and then launch a browser.

Families without Internet may sign through Comcast and receive two months free. For information, visit internetessentials.com.

In closing, the Principals will be in touch if you have any questions please email or call your child’s school. Visit our website often as information will be posted for your access.

Following this letter are some frequently asked questions. Again, do not hesitate to contact your child’s principal or me with any concerns or questions.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Dr. Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. WHEN IS THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL?

A. June 22, 2020, is the last day of school for the year.

Q. Will April 20 -24 (vacation) be impacted?

A. At this time, there is NO change to April vacation.

Q. Will there be access to any school building during the time the school is closed?

A. Access is **very** limited. Please contact your building principal should you need to enter the building.

Q. Will food service be available for students?

A. Yes, please refer to the district website for a list of locations and times. Food is available Monday – Friday during our closure.

Q. Are there any school related athletic, club or activities happening during the shut-down?

A. No – everything is cancelled.

Q. Are spring sports delayed?

A. Yes, at the present time, the MIAA has delayed the start of spring sports to March 30, 2020.

Q. How can I get my child’s Chromebook if it was left at school?

A. Contact your child’s principal by email.

Q. What if we do not have internet at home, how will my child access educational materials?

A. Packets of materials will be available to download from the district’s website. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact your child’s principal and we will provide you with a paper copy.

Q. What if my child cannot log in to their account?

A. Contact your child’s principal for help.

Q. What about grades and report cards?

A. We are working on providing additional information and will be sharing details about this in the near future.

Q. What about MCAS testing?

A. DESE is currently reviewing MCAS testing dates and will be making notification to districts in the near future. At this point, the only information we have from DESE is the ELA portion has been delayed.

Q. What if my child is scheduled to take the SAT?

A. The College Board has posted information on its website.

Q. My child is on an IEP or 504 Plan, and I am concerned about the implications of the closure on my child's educational progress.

A. Upon the conclusion of the closure, and the re-opening of the district, IEP teams, will be available to convene to determine what type of impact the closure had on your child's educational progress, and make individual team decisions.

Contact Information

District website: www.warehamps.org

Superintendent's email: kshaver-hood@wareham.k12.ma.us

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