

## Jacksonville School District #117

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Steve Ptacek  
Superintendent of Schools



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### COVID-19 School Closure - Frequently Asked Questions

Most recent update: March 16, 2020 4:00 pm  
(UPDATES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED!)

#### **When is school closed?**

Currently we are closed to students from Monday, March 16 - Monday, March 30. We are scheduled to return on Tuesday, March 31. The Governor could extend the closure if required in the interest of public safety.

#### **Will there be any distance of e-learning requirements?**

Since we have spring break the second week of this closure, we are only losing this current instructional week, so we are not going to initiate any e-learning requirements. If the closure is lifted and we return to school on Tuesday, March 31, we will continue instruction. We will re-evaluate this stance if the closure is continued.

#### **Will the district serve lunches and breakfasts during this closure?**

Our Food Service Department will prepare and provide meals to JSD117 Students on Tuesday, March 17. There will be enough food to provide the student 2 meals (One for Tuesday and one for Wednesday). Meals will be distributed on the North side of Jacksonville High School from 10:00am until 12:00 noon. Students must be present in order to receive meals. Pick-up will be outside and will require that everyone observe social distancing. There will be an orderly line that people must follow in order to receive meals. Meals are for all JSD117 students. We will also provide these meals, at the same time, at Murrayville-Woodson Elementary School for students living within that school boundary.

I will re-evaluate this program and determine whether we will again provide two days' worth of meals on Thursday. I will send out an announcement if we decide to continue or stop these meals. Currently, gatherings are being further restricted by the government. This could limit our ability to gather the staff needed to prepare these meals.

Keep in mind our district is on Spring Break from March 23-27 and no meals will be prepared and no District staff will be expected to work.

#### **How will this impact the rest of the semester with events such as prom and the graduation ceremony?**

We are not ready to answer this at this time. As stated earlier, we have no idea what our future situation looks like. We will address those, and many other, questions as we learn more.

#### **Will this impact a senior's ability to graduate this spring?**

I do not see this closure alone preventing a student from graduating, even in the worst-case scenario that schools do not return. Modifications will be made. Remember, other schools throughout the country are in the same situations.

*Celebrating 150 years  
1867 – 2017*

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### **While the schools are closed, are spring sports cancelled?**

Yes. This includes practices, meetings, etc. **If your student is feeling pressure to meet with an unofficial practice, please let me know. Coaches have been told that is not allowed.**

### **How do I get medications for my students that are at the school?**

If you have given the school medication to be issued to your student, someone will contact you to setup a time to return the medication.

### **Will we have to make these days up?**

As stated by the ISBE, these are Act of God (AOG) days and we do not need to make these days up.

### **Will the schools be open?**

No. Since we did close without any notice, you can call the offices on Monday, March 16 to notify the office if there is an item in your student's locker that you absolutely need. The office will setup a time for you to come and pick up the item. We will get the item from your student's locker. We will be cleaning the schools, and they will not be open to the public during this closure.

### **How can I contact my building administrator if I need assistance?**

We are in full support of the social distancing phase of preventing the spread of this disease; therefore, the buildings will not be open to the public. Your school principal has an email address on each school's webpage. If you need to contact them, please send them an email.

### **Are there any public events at JSD117 during this closure?**

No. This includes 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house and orientation at JHS scheduled this week. We cannot address any changes in the date of any event until we know more about the public health situation.

### **How will this impact state testing?**

**We do not have any answers at this time.**

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