

Email: 3/18/20 4:31p.m.

Dear EBRPSS Employees,

I want you to know that your health and well-being are of great importance to me, our board and all of our staff. We feel a tremendous social responsibility to take every measure necessary to slow the spread of COVID-19. We are transitioning to a closure of all buildings over the next few days, with a few exceptions, as we wrap up important services. To that end, here are a few updates on what will be remaining open and what is temporarily closing.

Feeding sites will remain open until we are told otherwise by state and local officials. Our Child Nutrition Department has gone above and beyond to serve the children of our community at seven sites. The number of school sites will be expanding to accommodate more families next week. I cannot thank our cafeteria workers enough for the vital role they are playing. CNP staff will be the schools to retrieve food from our cafeterias to serve at different locations.

Health Centers in Schools nurses will be rotating through many of our school sites through the end of this week to distribute medications back to families. This will conclude on Friday, March 20, at 4 p.m.

Once this task is completed, all school buildings and district offices will be closed effective Monday, March 23, until further notice, except for where limited district operational services are still being performed. Schools will no longer be accepting mail, deliveries or outside visitors, also until further notice.

We expect Governor John Bel Edwards will be issuing new information in the next few days in regards to state testing, attendance requirements, employee evaluations, high school senior activities, etc. This information will help guide us through some of the most frequently asked questions that some of you have had.

We know that many of you want to be helpful during the closure. Here is how you can support our families.

1. **Optional Enrichment Activities:** Our curriculum and instructional team has done an excellent job. They posted a wide variety of resources for families to access online, <https://eberschools.org/departments/curriculum-instruction-p-d/instructional-resources-guidance/>. We will also produce printed packets (locations and dates TBD) across the parish. Until further notice, children CANNOT be required to log into virtual classrooms, or complete any school assignment or enrichment activity for a grade. These activities are all optional.
2. **Social Media:** Communication platforms and social media tools can be a very helpful resource in times like these. As employees of this organization, people will look to you for guidance. However, we must be conscientious about what information is made public. Please only share factual information. We have created a comprehensive hub of coronavirus related information on our district website. People should be referred to that page or to the hotline email (HOTLINE@erschools.org). If you feel the need to address misinformation on social media, please send questions to the hotline and we will provide you with official guidance.

Sincerely,

Warren Drake