



WOOD DALE

SCHOOL DISTRICT 7

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

JOHN W. CORBETT, Ed. D.
Superintendent

MERRI BETH KUDRNA, Ed. D.
Curriculum Director

STEVE WILT
Business Manager

March 16, 2020

Dear Wood Dale 7 Families,

Thank you for your extraordinary support over the past week as we have worked together to understand and plan to prevent COVID-19 in our community. As I informed you on Friday, Governor Pritzker ordered all Illinois schools to be closed through March 31st. Originally, we planned to have students make up some of these days at the end of the school year. However, this weekend the Governor declared his school closure as an “Act of God”, thus none of these missed days will need to be made up. Since the mandated closure ends the week prior to the District 7 scheduled Spring Break, all **District 7 schools will be closed from Monday, March 16th - Friday, April 3rd. Classes will resume on Monday, April 6th.**

What does all this mean for your child(ren) and their education over the coming weeks? Below you will find questions and answers to help guide you through what we have put in place to continue to provide for your child’s academic, nutritional, and emotional needs during the school closure:

What will happen each day of the school closure?

Monday, March 16th - a non-attendance day with no assignments for students.

Tuesday, March 17th - a scheduled school holiday with no assignments for students.

Wednesday, March 18th - e-Learning will begin. District 7 teachers will begin providing learning opportunities for your child via their Chromebooks. Activities for Early Childhood students will be sent to parents via US mail. At the bottom of this document, there is a separate section that provides a **detailed** explanation of the e-Learning program.

March 19th - 27th - e-Learning will continue each weekday.

March 30 through April 3 - District 7 Spring Break. There will be no assignments for students.

April 6th - Schools scheduled to reopen and classes will resume.

Can I receive breakfast and lunch for my child during the closure?

Yes, during the school closure, the district is offering breakfast and lunch to **ALL** District 7 students. Meals can be picked up at Oakbrook, Westview, or Wood Dale Junior High. The pick-up time will be between 8:00 and 9:30 am on March 18th through March 27th. If families are interested in receiving these meals, please fill out the survey that is linked below. Indicate which school you would like to pick up the meals, as well as how many students you have. This will give us an idea of how many meals to prepare.

[CLICK HERE FOR MEAL SURVEY](#)

If you cannot pick-up meals at the schools, please contact Mr. Steve Wilt at swilt@wdsd7.org or call 630-595-9510 to arrange an alternate method of delivery.

Will the schools be open during the closure?

Yes, the District 7 office and ALL schools will be open during the closure. The administrators and office staff will be available to answer your questions. Office hours will be from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. These hours may change so please check our website for updates.

Will the school closure extend the school year?

No, the Governor declared the closure to be an “Act of God”. This means none of the missed days will need to be made up in June.

What do I say to my child if he/she is anxious about what is happening?

Concern over this new virus can make children anxious. It is important to remember children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events. If adults seem overly worried, children's anxiety may rise. Adults should listen to their children's concerns and reassure them that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people throughout the country stay healthy. Make an effort to limit news exposure. If your child is experiencing anxiety, please call your school and we will have one of our social workers follow-up with you.

Additionally, here are some resources for talking to your children about COVID-19:

[Talking to Children about COVID-19: A Parent Resource](#)

[Just for Kids: A Comic Exploring the Coronavirus](#)

[How to Talk With your Kids about Coronavirus](#)

What is the best way for families to stay informed during the school closure?

We understand this is an unprecedented situation and we appreciate your patience, flexibility, and understanding. We know that unexpected situations and complications will continue to arise, and our staff will be available to help families navigate these situations. You are encouraged to call the schools when you have a specific question. We will also continue to communicate regularly by posting updates and information on our [webpage](#) and via Twitter.

Communication Resources:

District website: www.wd7.org

Twitter: [@wdsd_7](https://twitter.com/wdsd_7)

Early Childhood: (630) 694-1174

Oakbrook: (630) 766-6336

Westview: (630) 766-8040

Wood Dale Junior High: (630) 766-6210

District Office: (630) 595-9510

Additional information about COVID-19:

[DuPage County Health Department](#)

[Illinois Department of Public Health](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

FAQ: e-Learning Day

Students will access assignments via the Otus platform on their Chromebook.

What will my child do on e-Learning Days?

Teachers will post assignments in Otus before the beginning of the regular school day. Students can access Otus via Clever or by navigating to my.otus.com and logging in with their WD7 Google account.

Students are expected to complete their assignments each day. In the event assignments cannot be completed on the e-Learning Day due to lack of internet access or sickness, then students will have 5 days after school resumes to complete and submit their assignments.

Early Childhood students will be assigned 1 hour of e-Learning assignments. Activities for e-Learning days will be sent via mail.

Kindergarten through 8th grade will be assigned 5 hours of e-Learning assignments.

Students will not receive all of their assignments on the 1st e-Learning Day. Teachers will continue to develop assignments during the closure and they will be posted at the beginning of each school day.

Students in kindergarten through 8th grade should be able to complete all assignments independently. If assistance is needed, teachers will be available to students through the Otus platform. If parents are experiencing difficulty, please call the school's main office or email support@wdsd7.org. You can also leave voicemails for the teacher using their [extension number](#) which can be obtained [HERE](#). Your phone message will be sent to the email of the teacher. Teachers will check the Otus blog at least once an hour to answer student/guardian questions. Emails received at support@otus.org will be forwarded to necessary parties.

When will e-Learning day assignments be posted?

Assignments will be posted by the start time of the regular school day via the Otus platform. Consideration will be given to students that need additional time to complete assignments due to unforeseen circumstances.

What if my child does not have the materials or supplies needed to complete assignments?

All District 7 schools will be open during the closure. Family members are encouraged to call the schools and arrange for a time to pick up any needed materials or supplies.

What should I do if I have technology-related questions during an e-learning day?

If a student is having technology-related issues, please contact our Technology Support Center at support@wdsd7.org.

What if my child does not have internet access?

Comcast is offering 2 free months to new customers that qualify. There is nothing new applicants have to do to take advantage of the offer for two free months of service. If someone qualifies for Internet Essentials using existing qualification criteria they will automatically receive their first two months of service for free (not including taxes). After two months they will continue to be billed at regular Internet Essentials rates unless they disconnect their service. [You can apply here.](#)

How will attendance be taken?

Attendance will be taken through the Otus Platform as students complete assignments. Please note attendance does not need to be reported for preschool. If students are unable to complete assignments on e-Learning Days, they will have 5 days upon returning to school to complete the assignments. If the student does not complete the assignments, then he/she will be marked absent for the e-Learning Day. Parents should utilize normal procedures for absences if their children are ill or unable to perform class activities by calling their school attendance numbers.

How will the e-Learning day impact after-school activities?

All after school and evening activities are currently cancelled.

What if my teacher does not have access to a device, or cannot correspond with us, because they have been adversely affected by the emergency event (ex. ill, lost power, internet, etc.)

Parents/guardians will be notified via email if a teacher is unavailable due to the emergency circumstances, but the assignments will be posted by grade level team members. Please remember that students have 5 school days to complete the work upon resumption of schooling.

What if my child has an IEP or 504 plan?

Students with special needs will have assignments modified or provided based on their IEP goals from their special education teacher or related service provider. Otus allows teachers to provide differentiated learning opportunities for students based on IEP/504 requirements, accommodations, or best practices.