



3755 Church Street  
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[www.zacharyschools.org](http://www.zacharyschools.org)

## Zachary Community School District Coronavirus Update 3/15/2020

ZCSD Families and Employees,

The Zachary Community School District is committed to supporting our students and families through these unprecedented times. The temporary closing of schools is a strategy utilized to stop or slow the further spread of COVID-19 in communities. We understand that proactive measures are needed to ensure our families remain healthy. Currently, our staff is working behind the scenes to finalize plans. We appreciate your patience as we do so.

Please continue to protect yourself and your community from getting and spreading respiratory illnesses. Everyone has a role to play in practicing everyday preventive behaviors; therefore, we remind you to continue to encourage your children to take daily preventative actions to prevent the spread of any respiratory illness.

### **Closure Information:**

- All school activities, including athletics, have been postponed or canceled.
- All public school facilities in the State of Louisiana are closed to students until April 13, 2020. However, due to the previously scheduled Spring Break, Zachary Community Schools will not reopen until Monday, April 20, 2020.

**Updates will be provided as more details or guidance becomes available.**

### **Prevention:**

As a reminder, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. The CDC recommends the following actions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases:

- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and large crowds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash, or use the elbow method.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick.

### **Medication:**

As a reminder, all schools are open tomorrow, Monday, March 16, 2020, between 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. so that parents may retrieve student medication if needed.



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### **District Facilities:**

Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020, access to the ZCSD facilities will be limited to only those with preapproval.

### **Employees:**

All employees will continue to receive direction and information from your direct supervisor. Any questions or concerns should be directed to your principal or supervisor only.

## **Below you will find updates regarding our educational services and nutritional program:**

### **Student Meals:**

The USDA has provided flexibility to schools to provide meals to **ALL** children 18 years and under during the extended closure.

- The Zachary Community School District has identified Zachary High School as our district's meal site.
- Parents will be able to drive up to Zachary High School to receive bagged meals.
- For your convenience, families will be able to obtain both breakfast and lunch at the same time for each child, 18 years old and younger, that is present.
- Families will not need to exit cars to obtain these meals.
- Once the details are finalized, the ZCSD will send out more information regarding the times and procedures for obtaining these meals.

### **Academic Home Learning Resources:**

The Zachary Community School District will not be operating a distance education program during this closure. Instead, we will be providing At Home Learning Resources. Below you will find information about what will be provided:

**-Zachary Community School District's at Home Learning Resource Page:** This page is one way that Zachary Schools will provide our parents with information and resources that can support our students in a variety of ways. The webpage will be launched by March 18, 2020, and a link will be sent out.

**-Student At Home Learning Packets:** The Zachary Community School District will provide a drive-through pickup of packets for grades PreK – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. When the details are finalized, the ZCSD will send out information regarding the times and procedures for obtaining these packets.

- **Dual Enrollment Courses**

All dual enrollment high school courses will continue online. The ZHS Administration and teachers will continue to be in contact directly with these students to assist in ensuring their continued success.



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- **Advanced Placement Courses**

All AP Teachers will be in direct contact with parents/students regarding AP Information and Resources.

- **Student Support Services**

The Student Support Services Department will be in direct contact with parents of Gifted, Disabled and EL Students.

- **Technology Access**

- Our plan ensures that students have varied options, including technology access.
- We are working on distributing laptops and Wi-Fi hot spots for students as **deemed necessary**.

**-Louisiana Department of Education Academic Resources:** The Louisiana Department of Education, in partnership with Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB), will provide home learning tools for teachers, students, and caregivers. This will include:

- ***An online hub that is set to launch on March 18. It will consist of links to High-Quality Curriculum Resources.***
  - Increased access to digital content, including virtual lessons
  - Resources to teach young children about COVID-19
- ***Broadcasted educational programming through LPB and YouTube Channels.***
  - Updates will be posted once this resource has launched.

**Internet Access for Families and Students- Public Announcement:**

***The FCC Chairman has launched the Keep Americans Connected Pledge, which many [broadband carriers](#) have signed. For the next 60 days, its core provisions will:***

- Not terminate services to any residential or small business customers because of their inability to pay their bills due to the disruptions caused by the coronavirus pandemic;
- Waive any late fees that any residential or small business customers incur because of their economic circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic; and
- Open its Wi-Fi hotspots to any American who needs them.



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**Limited income households can apply for \$5 to \$10 per month internet access through the following:**

- [AT&T Access](#)
- [Cox Connect 2 Complete](#)
- [Century Link Lifeline](#)
- [Charter Communication](#) will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a subscription.

**Additional Resources:**

All district communications regarding health can be found on our district's website at:

<http://zacharyschools.org/departments/academics/student-support-services/health-precautions/>

Please see the East Baton Rouge Parish COVID-19 Resource Flyer 2020 at:

<https://www.brla.gov/DocumentCenter/View/8940/EBR-Coronavirus-Flyer>

Please see Governor Edwards Proclamation:

<https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/ExecutiveOrders/27-JBE-2020-COVID-19.pdf>

**Who to Call:**

If you have any additional questions or concerns about the Coronavirus, please contact the following:

- COVID-19 General Information  
1-855-523-2652  
211

If you have a Zachary Community School District related question or concerns, please contact us through our Zachary Connect link at:

<http://zacharyschools.org/contact/>

We will continue to provide updates and share information with you through email, text and social media.

Thank you,  
Zachary Community School District