

U.S.D. 466

Scott County Schools

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To: Students, Staff, Parents, and Friends of Scott County Schools

From: Jamie Rumford, Superintendent of Schools

Date: March 20, 2020

Re: Education Planning for Remainder of the 19-20 School Year

Plans for the continuation of education for the students of Scott County Schools are in progress. With guidelines from the Kansas State Department of Education and the Scott County Health Department, plans are being made to keep students learning throughout the remainder of the school year while keeping safety precautions at the forefront of our work.

The underlying goals of the plan are to:

1. Provide opportunities to allow for the continued growth of each student.
2. Offer educational and social/emotional supports to each student.
3. Replicate the experiences planned for students with safe methods in place.

Our method of delivering a high quality education to our students will have a different look than what we are used to. We will rely solely on virtual connections with students for the first couple of weeks. Once we feel safe allowing student access to buildings, we will consider small group work on site.

To kick things off, we will start with a phone call to every student in our district from our teaching staff early next week. Elementary students should expect a call from classroom teachers, and 6-12 students will receive a call from IPS teachers. With the call we will check in with each student to see how they are doing, find out their needs for virtual connection, and inform them of the process we plan to follow and services we can help with.

Parents should start considering the following to be prepared for the phone call:

- Do you have internet connectivity in your home? Data from our last technology survey indicated a very low number of families WITHOUT internet. There may be some opportunities the school district can do to help with this in case families do not have connection.
- Do you have a technology device your student(s) can use? Our district has distributed an iPad to all students in grades 5-12. These devices will be available to students in these grade levels. We are also considering ways to get more district iPads out to students in the 4th grade and younger. Please understand we do not plan to have your student sit in front of a screen all day. We see these devices as a way to connect to your student with video conferencing and educational platforms.
- Can you make time for your student to connect with teachers? We envision this to be in short increments daily or even weekly in some cases.
- Is there a time of day when you can retrieve personal belongings from the school buildings or pick up supplies? We know many students left necessary supplies in desks and lockers, and will need to get them back to be able to work.

Once we know this information, we will set plans for instruction and provide help to those who need it. Our teachers will be working to meet your student's needs and I can assure you they will work tirelessly to make the most of any opportunity we can for kids.



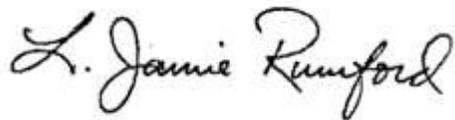
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IS TO PROVIDE A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

The implementation of our district's plan will take some time and will be unique. Administration has been in planning sessions this week, and teachers will join the effort next week from March 23 – March 27. Students will start school work during the week of March 30. Our teachers will be given the option to work from locations outside of the school buildings as long as they can connect virtually. Many of them will work from home to take care of their own children who are not in school and we want to keep their safety a high priority as well.

Remember, our food program starts next Monday, March 23. This provides a free sack lunch to kids aged 1-18. For the beginning of the program, lunches need to be picked up at 704 S. College at the northeast corner of the building. We are looking to have a delivery plan in place for students who cannot drive to pick up their lunch as soon as possible. Paperwork and approval is required before the delivery plan can be in place, so we ask for your patience with this. Also, the student has to be present to get their lunch. This is in place for accountability purposes, and we cannot give lunches to adults intending to take them home to students.

We encourage parents to make the most of the situation we are in by involving yourself even more in your student's education. Take the time to teach them skills you would like them to learn. You might even ask another parent or friend to teach some skills in their talent set. Navigating the educational experience while school buildings are closed may appear to be challenging, but opportunities are there for our students and community to strengthen and grow throughout the next few months.

In Education,



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