



Bristol Warren Regional School District

151 State Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Telephone: (401) 253-4000

Fax: (401) 253-1740

Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

March 12, 2020

Dear BWRSD Community,

We would like to update you on our district's continued response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). School and district staff are taking proactive measures in safeguarding the wellness of our students and staff based on evolving recommendations from the RI Department of Education, RI Department of Health, and the Governor's Office.

Current District Actions:

- Reinforcing thorough handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Practicing effective cough and sneeze etiquette by coughing or sneezing into a tissue or your elbow, and using hand sanitizer.
- Schools will increase thorough and routine cleaning of classrooms and high traffic areas with a hydrogen peroxide solution.
- It is imperative that families keep children at home if they are exhibiting any symptoms of illness, including symptoms related to a cold, flu, or fever. Families should contact their child's school to notify them of the absence and symptoms their child is experiencing.
- All staff are asked to stay home if they are exhibiting any symptoms of illness.

New District Actions:

- Please do not visit any BWRSD school or offices if you are exhibiting any symptoms of illness.
- All school events that were previously open to parents and other relatives will still occur, but will be closed to the public, effective today, until further notice.
- All field trips out of the country and state are cancelled, effective immediately.
- All local field trips and the KMS Bake Off, scheduled this week, are cancelled. Other field trips for the month of March have been reviewed by district and school leadership and the status of each field trip will be posted on the district webpage (www.bwrdsd.org) and schools will notify families if events are cancelled.

Preparing for Students and Staff to Learn and Work from Home:

The state's recommendation to keep children in school during this time is based on advice from medical professionals who report that children are not as susceptible to this virus as other high-risk groups such as senior citizens. Keeping schools in session also avoids child care concerns for families, ensures children have access to school meals, and most importantly, minimizes disruptions to students' learning.

The Bristol Warren Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, National origin, color, disability or sexual orientation in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.



Bristol Warren Regional School District

151 State Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Telephone: (401) 253-4000

Fax: (401) 253-1740

Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Currently, state officials are not requiring that schools in our state close unless there is a confirmed diagnosis by a medical official that a student or staff member in the school has COVID-19. We will notify families via phone, text, email, and the RI Broadcasters Association website if schools will be closed. This will include the COZ childcare program and all after-school activities.

In the event that our school's are required to close, BWRSD staff are working to develop plans for learning to continue while students are home. This will provide the option for students to complete lessons online at home or receive printed copies of lessons and assignments if they do not have access to a technology device (laptop, Chromebook, or tablet) and internet service at home. All grade 6-12 students have Chromebooks and teachers and administrators have been discussing the use of our current online resources to ensure learning continues. Students in grades K-5 will also be assigned online lessons and activities or be provided with paper copies if needed. Schools will email families with information on how to access learning at home. This information will be posted on school and district websites, as well.

Our Business Office is working with Chartwells, our food service provider, to ensure that school meals will be available for students if schools are closed. We will have one site in Bristol and one site in Warren for meals to be picked up. Families will be notified.

We are also reviewing options for students who are attending out of district school placements. Families will be notified individually.

These actions are being implemented out of an abundance of caution, and we appreciate your partnership in protecting the health and safety of our students and staff. We will continue to keep you informed of any changes to this plan.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and schools.



Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools