

SAU 19 – Goffstown and New Boston School Districts COVID 19 Update

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents/Guardians:

Issued on March 16, 2020

Recent Update: April 3, 2020

Remote Learning

What will remote learning look like for a student and parent?

- Remote learning at all educational levels will have an instructional design and delivery that allows students and their guardian to access content and participate in learning at their convenience. Daily lessons will include assignments that students can do independently and other assignments that may require support from the parent or guardian.
- To view the Remote/Connected Learning Plan for SAU19, please click on this link:
<https://goftstown.k12.nh.us/index.php/covid-19-home/422-connected-learning-plan>

Why is the SAU using the term “Connected Learning” in the context of remote learning?

- The backbone of the SAU 19 Educational Community is the strong and positive connections and relationships that have been forged and cultivated between the many stakeholders. The SAU 19 remote learning initiative is no different. Rooted in defining and growing the connections between students, parents and educators, our implementation of remote teaching and learning is best defined as connected not remote.

How long will our schools conduct remote learning?

- Much will depend on the changing circumstances based on local and state conditions and guidance. The District will consult with public health officials for guidance to ensure public safety. As of March 15, 2020 the Governor has indicated that all public schools will be closed minimally until April 3, 2020. We will communicate updates as they become available.
- The Governor’s most recent order has all NH schools closed until May 4, 2020.

What impact will remote learning have on the school year?

- The NH State Board of Education passed an emergency rule, allowing remote learning to count as a school day. The SAU and local school districts will be afforded flexibility to meet State educational requirements. The school calendar is subject to change based on evolving circumstances. [See the DOE Information- Click Here](#)
- At this point, the remote learning plan does not likely change the scheduled last day of school.

Will remote learning have an impact on April school vacation?

- At this point a decision has not been made about April school vacation.

Student Expectations

Will attendance continue to be taken?

- Yes, we are following current practice. If your child will not be participating in remote learning on any given day, please call the school attendance line.

How will remote learning assignments be graded?

- At Mountain View Middle School (MVMS) and Goffstown High School (GHS) all classes will be assessed on pass/fail scale for the current semester/trimester.
- Remote learning assignments at all other grade levels will be evaluated and monitored by the teacher using the current grading scale.

If I have questions about remote learning assignments, who should I contact and what is the preferred method of communication?

- Please contact your student's teacher via email. Teachers will be accessing their email during regular school hours. Staff e-mail information is located on each school's website.

What is the status of student testing such as standardized assessments, AP Exams, SAT and ACT exams?

- College Board plans are changing daily in response to the latest available COVID-19 news. The most up-to-date information can be found at: <https://pages.collegeboard.org/collegeboard-covid-19-updates>

- On March 30, 2020 Governor Chris Sununu sent a waiver to the Federal Department of Education stating that New Hampshire statewide SAS, DLM and SAT testing, for students in Grades 3-8 and Grade 11, would not take place. See the Governor's full Press Release here: <https://www.governor.nh.gov/news-media/press-2020/20200330-suspend-tests.htm>

Student Services

How will remote counseling be delivered to students during this time?

- This is currently being developed.
- Please contact school counselors as you would typically do, via school email/telephone during school hours.
- Counselors will be available via phone or email during school hours. If there is a mental health emergency, families should utilize the Mobile Crisis Unit at 1-800-6883544, visit your nearest emergency room or call 911.
- For the detailed remote learning plan for SAU19, please use this link.

My child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a plan under Section 504, what should I expect?

- If you were planning to have any kind of parent meeting such as 504, special education, or teacher meeting, the coordinating staff member will be reaching out to you.
- **Please click here to see the letter by SAU#19 Special Education Director Dr. Jennifer Dolloff:**
https://goffstown.k12.nh.us/attachments/article/414/IEP_and_504_Q_and_A.pdf

Will the School Health offices be open during remote learning days?

- The school nurses will be available during the school day as a resource to parents and staff. Parents should report any influenza-like-illness (ILI) or positive test results for any type of flu including influenza A, B or COVID-19 to their student's health office.
- Please call or email the school nurse to schedule a time should you need to pick up medication from the health office. Please do not come to the school without an appointment.
- DHHS: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/>

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

As a parent or guardian, does the school district have any notification expectations in terms of travel or illness?

- We request that parents or guardians notify the health office of any exposure to illness or travel to any locations that have experienced a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Food Insecurity

Will the school continue to provide breakfast and lunch options?

- The Goffstown and New Boston School District Food Service Departments will provide grab-n-go breakfast and lunch for all students in both communities at no charge. Pick up will be available **Monday** and **Wednesday** 10:30am-12pm at the Goffstown High School gymnasium entrance. Guidance from the state requests that students be present, pick-up hours are subject to change based on community needs. (please see update below. Grab-n-go meals have been placed on hold)
- New Boston Central School families should utilize the Goffstown High School pickup station.
- Based on the current demand for student meals, the Food Service Department is coordinating efforts with local food pantries to provide assistance. Should the need for student meals increase, the school district has a plan to support increased demand.
- Please contact Megan Bizzarro at megan.bizzarro@sau19.org should you have further questions. Families experiencing food insecurities may confidentially contact our hotline at 660-5487.

Events, Building Access & Facility Use

Will school buildings be open during remote learning?

- At this time, all schools are closed to the public.
- Certain students may receive special services requiring them to come to school for a limited time period. In those instances, an appointment will be made in advance.

- Main Office and Health Offices will be open with flexible hours during the normal school day so staff can coordinate remote learning. **It is necessary that you call ahead or email (please wait for a confirmation reply) prior to going to your student's school.**

What impact will remote learning have on co-curriculars, athletics, trips, and school related events?

- As of March 15, 2020 all athletic and co-curricular events have been suspended until further notice. We will continue to monitor and provide updates as more information becomes available.
- The NHIAA has cancelled all athletic competitions through May 4, 2020. The remainder of the sports season will depend on the duration of NH schools being closed.

Will Goffstown and New Boston Schools be open to outside events during remote learning days?

- No. All schools will be closed to outside organizations through May 4, 2020. Organizations scheduled on our school calendars during this time will be notified.

Remote Learning Access

What if I have technology related questions?

- For technology related questions, please contact your student's teacher. Should additional help be needed, the teacher will provide additional direction.

What if I do not have access to a computer, or access to the Internet, can the District help?

- Paper and pencil options are available to support students and families who do not have internet or computer access. Please call 660-5488 and your message will be delivered to your student's teacher.
- For parents and guardians who may need a device to access remote learning are asked to call a confidential voice mail box and provide their information. Please call 660-5489. We cannot guarantee a device, but will try to accommodate needs on a case by case basis.
- Comcast is offering free internet essentials for 60 days for low income families.

Other:

I have a student enrolled in Driver Education at GHS, how are those classes impacted?

- The current March/April Driver Education class has been suspended and will resume on June 29th to complete the remaining classroom component of the course. Seacoast and Charlee's Driving School will communicate with impacted students shortly after they receive more direction from the State of NH.
- The State of NH recently enacted an emergency order allowing Driving Schools the ability to conduct the classroom portion of the course via remote learning. Both Seacoast and Charlee's Driving Schools are developing this online platform, and hope to resume the current driver education class in late April. There is still no direction from the State as to the driving portion of the course. Students and parents will receive an email with more information in the next week or two.

I have a student who was participating in the GHS Music Department Trip to Austria, is the trip cancelled? And if so, will we get any refunds?

- In light of travel restrictions in Europe, the Austria trip is cancelled. The GHS Music Department will communicate with affected families as soon as the tour agency has confirmed the amount eligible for refunds. Those families that purchased trip insurance are encouraged to check with the provider.

What if I have additional questions and I'm not sure who to ask?

- We first ask that you check the SAU 19 website for information. We will continue to update this document with additional information.
- If you cannot resolve your question using information on the website, please contact the school. Our experienced school staff will likely be able to respond to most of your inquiries.

School Related Activities:

When will you be able to tell us whether or not certain school related activities in April, May and June will be cancelled? In particular, the Prom and Graduation.

- With all NH schools closed until May 4, 2020, the GHS Junior Prom has been postponed indefinitely. GHS Class Advisors are working with vendors to determine availability to hold the prom at a later date. More information to follow.

- As of now, there are no changes to the dates of GHS graduation and MVMS promotion events. However, based on the uncertainties of school closures, administration is exploring alternate options for these events to be held in either July or August at St. Anselm College and/or GHS.