

Morrisville-Eaton Central School District

COVID-19 Closure Detailed Summary

Meal Deliveries –

Important information can be found at this link:

<https://www.mecs.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=334095&pageId=27369236>

Please note that all meals under this program are free, regardless of families qualifying for free/reduced lunch. The Federal Government reimburses school districts for the costs associated with these meals. It actually helps local schools when more families participate in these programs. Don't shy away from the offerings, we are happy to help and serve you. If you wish to cancel your participation or request meals in the future, please contact Mrs. McCann at 315-684-9158.

We have run into some obstacles with the home delivery of meals and mail. Most concerning have been the reports of dogs being aggressive toward our providers. Please secure your animals when you have scheduled deliveries from the school. An additional request is that all families put a cooler by the door where these meals are being dropped off. This will protect your meals from the elements as well as prevent contact between our staff and the residents. I am happy to report that we will be able to provide meals to our families during the scheduled April break – evidence that our food service providers and bus drivers are altruistic.

Supporting Your Child -

For families looking for ways to support their children more deeply than what we can currently offer, consider online learning games, activities, and other resources. Other home-projects could also lend themselves well to student learning. A great resource to explore is www.engageny.org. This site has curriculum materials for all our State-required curricula. Take some time to navigate the instructional videos, guides, assessments and more.

Additional Resources Needed (Food or Supplies)

We have received many donations of food and home necessities over the last few weeks to support our families. If you are in need of food or supplies, please reach out to our Leo's Club advisor, Meaghan Palmer to seek assistance. Her e-mail is mpalmer@m-ecs.org.

Supporting Our Students (Mental Health Needs)

One generated thought suggested we find ways to support our students with mental health needs such as those dealing with anxiety (or anything else). In response, our counselors will be working with Mr. Fairbrother to develop a system to deliver services uniquely. If you have a child who would benefit through remote counseling, please call Mrs. Freeborn at 315-684-9196 or email: cfreeborn@m-ecs.org.

Virtual Learning

As you can imagine, this new instructional concept can be a challenge to implement. It is expected that students are being connected with at a personal level by their teachers. We will also be relying on students doing their part to stay in contact with their teachers. If a child is not meeting an expectation, please be prepared for a phone call or virtual meeting request from your child's teacher and/or principal. At the same time, this new learning concept can create great pressure on parents. If parents need relief from expectations or guidance/direction from teachers, please contact them.

To protect the health of our team, it was decided that the exchange of physical materials should not occur. Therefore, instructional materials will now only be delivered through technology. For those that have no access to appropriate technology, individualized plans will be developed in coordination with teachers.

Our innovative librarians have shared numerous sites to online books and audiobooks with our instructional staff. If you are looking for reading material for your children, please reach out to Ms. Wise at ewise@m-ecs.org or Mrs. Jacobs-Broedel jjacobs-broedel@m-ecs.org.

Access and Connectivity Issues

We are also moving forward with plans to secure hotspots for those outside a high-speed internet coverage area.

Childcare Services

We received guidance on childcare services available during this pandemic. Childcare placement will be available to essential employees who work in healthcare, are first responders, who work in grocery stores, in transportation, some construction fields, certain non-profit agencies and in food or supply distribution fields. If you believe you may qualify, please call the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison Child Care Resource Center at 315-223-7850 extension 222 or e-mail: earlycareandlearning@cornell.edu. I had a conversation with the director of the program, offering our space and some personnel if needed, to provide a local option for this service. The program director will decide, however, where the care will be housed based on overall need.

Hot Line

Upstate University Hospital has a COVID-19 hotline that they are encouraging people to use, please call (315) 464-3979.