



In today's press conference, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee issued a statement recommending schools close for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year due to the continuous spread of COVID-19. Bradley County and Cleveland City Schools will follow this recommendation. All school-related activities will be canceled or postponed. Districts will communicate through individual schools concerning events, as needed. Please follow your respective district for specific details.

Please find the press release from the Tennessee Department of Education below:

**NASHVILLE, TN** – Commissioner Penny Schwinn released this statement regarding the Governor's recommendation to extend school closures through the end of the school year and the creation of the COVID-19 Child Wellbeing Task Force.

"I appreciate the governor's recommendation schools remain closed through the end of the school year to protect the health and safety of all Tennesseans. The coronavirus pandemic is constantly evolving, and we are only starting to see how this pandemic is affecting our children," said Dr. Penny Schwinn.

"Children being out of school for such a long time has significant implications for a child's wellbeing, and this poses a different kind of challenge for all of us, as communities and as a state. There is critical work ahead, and I am honored to convene the COVID-19 Child Wellbeing Task Force in the coming weeks to focus state and local leaders on the wellbeing of Tennessee's children."

Please continue to check the school systems' websites and social media for continued updates.

Respectfully,

*Linda Cash*

Dr. Linda Cash,  
Bradley County Schools

*Russell Dyer*

Dr. Russell Dyer,  
Cleveland City Schools