



Green Mountain School District No. 103

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Update for Families on the COVID-19 School Closure

March 18, 2020

As you know, Governor Inslee last Friday announced the **closure of all schools in Washington State** to help contain the coronavirus pandemic. School is currently expected to resume on Monday, April 27.

This letter will provide parents and students with updated information on district operations during this extended emergency closure. Please continue to check our website (www.greenmountainschool.us) for updates as this situation continues to unfold and evolve.

Office Hours:

The school office will be operating on limited staffing and limited office hours during this closure. In order to minimize the spread of the virus, most staff are working from home or on an on-call basis.

The school office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Please call ahead to make sure that there is somebody in the office if you need to see us.

Superintendent Tyson Vogeler is available by cell phone (360-749-0033) and text for pressing issues, or by email at tyson.vogeler@greenmountainschool.us.

Student Instruction:

After thoughtful consideration of state guidance, the district has determined that we are unable to provide ongoing academic instruction during this extended closure. We cannot assure that all students have equitable access to instruction, materials, and necessary supports. Because of this decision, no packets or ongoing assignments will be provided to students during this closure.

It is important that parents and students make efforts during this closure to help maintain academic skills and prevent learning losses. We are encouraging parents to continue a routine that includes learning time and activities each day, but they will look quite different from the regular classroom.

Here are suggested activities:

- Have students read at least 30 minutes each morning and afternoon. Have younger students read to parents. If you need books, call the office and we will help you access library books.
- Review math problems your student may have brought home on papers or worksheets. You can re-write these problems and have students solve them to reinforce their math skills.
- Have your children write or journal about their experience with the school closure.
- Encourage your children to draw or use other art skills.
- All resources available to students at school may be accessed at home. Our school website has links to educational sites students are familiar with and that have proven successful.
- This is an excellent opportunity to involve your children in experiential learning at home. Math and reading is part of many home activities, and exposing your students to the real-life applications of their math and reading skills is important.

We will continue to look at options and state guidance on providing instruction during this emergency closure. If we find a feasible and equitable option, we will communicate those changes.

In this unsettled time of anxiety and stress, please remember also that although school and learning are important, the emotional and physical health and safety of your students is paramount. Play, entertainment, and nurturing is especially important during stressful times for children and academics need not be your or their priority.

School Calendar:

School is closed and is currently expected to resume on April 27. If the closure is extended, these dates may change.

The following days will be added to the school calendar as student days:

May 1 and May 22 – these were snow make-up days
June 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 – days added to the end of the school year.
Eighth grade promotion will remain as scheduled on June 11.

Student Meals:

Green Mountain students up to age 18 may access free breakfasts and lunches at Amboy Middle School or Yacolt Primary School each day from 11:00 to noon. If your family is struggling for food during this school closure, please call the office and we will work with you to find food resources.

Student Medications and Belongings:

If your child has student medications stored at school that you need during this closure, please contact the school office and arrange to pick them up. Likewise, if you need to pick up student belongings that are in a classroom, please call the office during the posted hours and we will work with you.

This is an unprecedented and challenging time in our lives, but I have learned that the Green Mountain School community is strong and resilient. I want to re-assure you that your students will not be irreparably harmed by this school closure, and that when we return to the classroom our teachers and I will work together to help them recover any learning losses that result from this break. While we are away from the classrooms, please focus on keeping your students emotionally and physically safe so that they are ready to maximize learning when we re-convene.

Thank you for your understanding as we continue to work our way through the COVID-19 situation. Please contact me if you have questions or if there are things the district may be able to help you with during this crisis.

PAWSitively,



Tyson J. Vogeler
Superintendent/Principal