

COVID - 19 FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions - Jennings Public Schools

Updated 4/15/2020

1. How long will school be closed?

All public schools are closed through the end of the year. It was originally announced that schools would be closed until Monday, April 6th, but that has now been extended. However, beginning Monday, April 6th schools are required to provide a distance learning option for the remainder of the year. See the next FAQ for more information.

2. With on-site learning done for the year, when can we pick up our child's personal items? When do Chromebooks, library books, uniforms, etc. need to be returned?

Office hours are currently Monday - Thursday from 9 AM - 2 PM. That could change in the coming weeks. We will make an announcement if it does. Personal items may be picked up any time during that window. We asked that parents report the office and we will take you to each student's locker or classroom to collect these items.

Many students may want to utilize their chromebooks for distance learning. If they are not using them, they can return them to the school at their convenience. After May 8th, we will call for the return of all materials, uniforms, books, etc. and roll out procedures to do this as safely and timely as possible.

3. What will distance learning look like? What are the requirements for students? (Updated)

Jennings Public Schools will provide enrichment & review activities for all students beginning on Monday, April 6th - Friday, May 8th. This is a five week period. Families have been given the option of utilizing paper/pencil packets or online learning activities.

Weeks are broken down as follows:

Week #1 - April 6-9

Week #2 - April 13-16

Week #3 - April 20-23

Week #4 - April 27-30

Week #5 - May 4-8

If you selected online learning activities.....

Detailed instructions are available on our website at www.jennings.k12.ok.us . PK/K will be utilizing ABC Mouse. 1st-8th grades will be utilizing Moby Max. You may contact your child's teacher directly or the office for login information.

If you selected paper/pencil packets.....

They are posted on our website at www.jennings.k12.ok.us each week. You may print them at home.

When will students complete assignments?

Assignments can be completed at any time throughout the week. However, we recommend that assignments be worked on Monday - Thursday between 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM when possible. All teachers are required to be available to answer questions or provide assistance during this time. Our teachers are here to help, so please contact them as often as necessary. Questions may be asked using email, phone, text, or Moby Max Messenger. A teacher contact sheet is located as the 2nd sheet in each week's packet.

Do paper/pencil packets need to be returned?

No. We do not want to risk unintentional transmission of COVID-19. While making the packets, we took extreme precautions to ensure that they would be copied and handed out to students in the safest way possible.

Will my child receive a grade for completing the online assignments or paper/pencil packets?

Yes. Parents/Guardians of children in grades 1-8 are required to contact their child's teacher each week to notify them when their child has completed all assignments. This can be done via email, phone, or text. Once contacted, their teacher will document that each core subject has been completed for that week. Parents should contact their child's teacher by Friday of each week to notify them of completion. If a parent does not contact the teacher, then the teacher will make one attempt to contact that parent. If contact is not made, then the student will not receive credit for that week in each core subject.

Semester grades will be issued based on class grades and completed assignments prior to March 12th.

4th nine weeks grades will be issued based on the completion or lack thereof of distance learning assignments from April 6 - May 8. Students will receive the following grades for the 4th nine weeks in each core subject:

S = Satisfactory -- Reported completion of all 5 weeks worth of assignments

N = Needs Improvement -- Reported completion of 3-4 weeks worth of assignments

U = Unsatisfactory -- Reported completion of 2 or less weeks worth of assignments

4. How does closure impact my child's grades and attendance?

Unfortunately, we will be unable to attend the Driller's game in April for those that have had perfect attendance from January, February, & March. The Drillers have postponed their season and we will be out of school before they resume. We are working on an alternative reward for those students. We are removing the district policy for attendance for the remainder of this year based on the circumstances.

We have made the decision that grades will be based solely on the weekly completion of either online assignments or paper/pencil packets.

Semester grades will be issued based on class grades and completed assignments prior to March 12th.

4th nine weeks grades will be issued based on the completion or lack thereof of distance learning assignments from April 6 - May 8. Students will receive the following grades for the 4th nine weeks in each core subject:

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A list of core subjects per grade level is listed below:

1st Grade - Reading, Language Arts, Math

2nd Grade - Reading, English, Spelling, Math

3rd Grade - Reading, English, Phonics, Spelling, Math, Science

4th Grade - Reading, English, Spelling, Math, Science

5th Grade - Reading, English, Spelling, Math, Science, Social Studies

6th Grade - Reading, English, Spelling, Math, Science, Social Studies

7th Grade - Reading, Language, Math, Science, Geography

8th Grade - Reading, Language, Math, Science, History

Due to transmission concerns, we will not be taking any of the paper/pencil packets back. Instead, we are asking each parent to contact their child's homeroom teacher to report packet or online completion by Friday of each week. If they are not contacted, the teacher will make one attempt to make contact with you. A detailed breakdown of grading is listed above.

5. What if some of the material in the pencil/paper packets are too difficult for my child?

We realize that all students are different and are at different places academically. We tried to find material that met the middle of each grade level. However, we recognize that some material may prove too difficult for some students. We are providing parents the flexibility to skip assignments if you make the determination that they are too difficult. We are asking that you give best effort and contact the teacher for assistance prior to making this decision, but we understand if you forgo a couple of sheets in each packet.

6. What if my child is doing online assignments and it is taking too long to complete the recommended assignment list?

Feel free to scale back if necessary. We tried to put together a list that would meet the recommended times the OSDE gave us for each grade level. However, we understand student's work at a different pace. If you need to reduce the daily amount, the first suggestion is to scale reading back to one assignment per day.

7. Since you are not grading packets, will parents have access to the answer key?

We will be posting answer keys for grades 1-8 to our website at www.jennings.k12.ok.us on Friday of each week for parents to access at home.

8. Who made the decision to close?

The Oklahoma State Department of Education held a special board meeting on Monday, March 16th mandating the closure of every public school in Oklahoma due to COVID - 19 until Monday, April 6th. They held another special meeting on Wednesday, March 25th, extending the closure for the remainder of the school year, but requiring districts to provide distance learning starting on Monday, April 6th.

9. Will the two weeks we have missed (March 23rd-April 2nd) have to be made up?

No. The Oklahoma State Board of Education waived school calendar requirements at the March 25th board meeting so that schools will not have to make these days up. However, the state board set the window for the last day of distance learning for districts between May 8th - 15th. The last day of school for Jennings Public Schools will be on May 8th.

10. Will the school building be open during the closure? (Updated)

Yes. Someone will be at the school from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Monday - Thursday for the time building. However, due to social distancing policies, we ask that you call to make an appointment prior to coming up. If this changes, we will announce it via Facebook.

11. Will meals be made available to students during the week? (New)

Yes. We are currently providing FREE GRAB & GO MEALS for children, ages 1-18. **You do not have to be a student at Jennings Public Schools to receive a meal.** We will provide both breakfast and lunch from 11:00 AM - 11:45 PM. If you would like to make arrangements to pick up meals later in the evening due to work, we would be happy to assist you with that. Please call the school to make these arrangements.

Additionally, your child does not have to be with you to pick up meals. We applied for and received a waiver to allow this. We understand that many families are concerned about the health and safety of their children, but can use the meals. If your child is not with you, you will be asked for their names for documentation purposes.

Beginning on Monday, March 30th, meals will only be served on Monday's. However, meal packs will include 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches to cover the entirety of the week. Meals may be picked up during these times at the following locations:

- Jennings First Baptist Church
- Hallett Community Center
- Terlton Senior Citizen's Center

Additionally, anyone not able make it one of these pick up locations, may call the school at 918-757-2536 and someone will deliver it directly to you. For additional information visit our Facebook page or website at www.jennings.k12.ok.us

12. What will happen to athletic events, extra curricular activities, and field trips scheduled during this time? (Updated)

The Oklahoma State Board of Education mandated the cancellation for all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year at their March 25th special meeting.

We have been working on alternative plans for our end of the year Awards Assemblies, PK Graduation, & 8th Grade Graduation. We will make an announcement on those details once we have everything available. Below you will find the Awards Assembly details:

Awards Assembly Information

- The Awards Assembly will be held on our school Facebook page (search Jennings Public Schools) on Monday, May 4th.
- Teachers will be coming in the week prior to May 4th to video their awards presentations for each grade & class.
- We will post the video of each teacher's awards presentation on our Facebook page beginning at 9:00 AM with Pre-Kindergarten and following the schedule below:
 - 9:00 AM - Pre-Kindergarten
 - 9:15 AM - Kindergarten (Lee)
 - 9:30 AM - Kindergarten (Muniz)
 - 9:45 AM - 1st Grade
 - 10:00 AM - 2nd Grade
 - 10:15 AM - 3rd Grade
 - 10:30 AM - 4th Grade
 - 10:45 AM - Reeves
 - 11:00 AM - Humble
 - 11:15 AM - Bergner
 - 11:30 AM - Tucker
 - 11:45 AM - Student of the Year
- All certificates & awards will be mailed out to each family later that week. For 100 book club shirts (PK-4th grades), we will be scheduling a day in the middle of May for those to be picked up. We will announce details for that at a later date.

13. Can teams practice while school is closed?

No. The OSDE has explicitly said that all extra-curricular activities associated with the school including practices must be canceled.

14. Will state testing for grades 3-8 be given as they are scheduled beginning on April 20th?

No. State testing for this year has been canceled. The OSDE applied for and received a Federal waiver to skip testing for this year due to these extreme circumstances.

15. How will the cancellation of state testing impact 3rd grade students with the RSA law and 8th graders with the reading proficiency law?

The OSDE has informed us that all current 8th graders will receive a medical exemption of the reading proficiency law concerning the attainment of their driver's license.

For 3rd graders, the OSDE has instructed us to look at benchmarking and progress monitoring results given prior to March 16th. We will have to meet virtually with any student's family who has not met requirements to determine whether or not to promote or retain.

16. How can parents help with this situation? (Updated)

Our students and teachers have worked extremely hard this year. We are concerned about students losing progress. Please read to your children daily and/or encourage your children to read, have a structured time for them to complete their distance learning assignments, help them complete their weekly assignments, & communicate regularly with their teachers.

We are receiving and sending out new information daily. Please check our school Facebook page, the district website (www.jennings.k12.ok.us) , or sign up for our text services.

It would also help if you reinforce the following healthy hygiene habits with your children and reinforce them while they are at home:

- Wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds frequently throughout the day.
- Do not touch your face.
- Sneeze/Cough into a tissue or their elbow.
- Do not hug, shake hands, or offer high fives.
- Stay home when possible.