



March 26, 2020

Subject: Plans for March 30th through April 7th

Dear Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 Students, Staff, and Families,

As next week approaches, we wanted to send out an update on our plans for the coming 7 week days between March 30th and April 7th. Here is what is known at this time:

Lunch service

We will be providing curbside pick up, aka drive through, for sack lunches to any HBR students on the following dates:

- March 30th (2 lunches per student)
- April 1st (2 lunches per student)
- April 3rd (1 lunch per student)
- April 6th (2 lunches per student)

Pick up time will be from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm at Hinckley-Big Rock High School. Utilizing our Lunch Service Interest survey, we will be prepared to serve 75 students each day. There is about 25% overage in this calculation to accommodate additional needs. If there is a need to increase prepared lunches due to demand, we will do so to meet the needs of our families. If the leave is extended past April 7th, we will continue lunch service in this fashion every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until we return to school on our regular schedule.

If you will be coming to HBRHS to grab lunch, we ask that you enter the campus via the north entrance off of Route 30, pull up to the front of the building, and stay in your car. We will bring the lunch(es) out to your car. Thanks for your patience, especially on March 30th, as we serve our students for the first time in this manner.

Chromebook devices

While we had device pickup on March 16th in which over 80 devices were checked out, we realize that there may be more of a need right now for a Chromebook device in the household due to parents/guardians possibly working at home. If your family has a need for a Chromebook to complete the upcoming learning through April 7th, we ask that you come to HBRHS at the same time as the lunch pick up, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, and follow the same process of entering the campus via the north entrance off of Route 30, pull up to the front of the building, and stay in your car. We will deliver the needed Chromebook and charger to your car.

Internet access

We received over 265 responses to our Internet Access survey. We learned that about 98% of the respondents have the needed internet access to complete the upcoming online learning. We are working with Verizon Wireless to provide wireless access points to the families who need them. From what we are being told, we should have these devices ready to go no later than March 31st. There is a good chance that we will get them earlier. We will be in contact with the families that expressed this need and will arrange a way to get these devices delivered.

We are still waiting on guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) on what the learning on March 31st through April 7th should look like. The classification of these days as Instructional Days as compared to Act of God days is an important part of our final plan. Remember that March 30th has already been classified as an Act of God day and we will adhere to our previous plans for that day. The only change for March 30th is that our offices will not be open from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm as originally planned. What you can expect is communication from the appropriate teacher(s) via Google Classroom and/or email in the coming days in preparation for the planned learning from March 31st to April 7th. While we are waiting on further guidance related to these upcoming days, we have learned the following:

- State testing in Illinois for this Spring has been waived by the Federal Government, thus will not be administered (Illinois Assessment of Readiness, grades 3-8; SAT, 11th grade; PSAT, 9th and 10th grade; Illinois Science Assessment, grades 5, 8, and HS Biology; and DLM-AA, alternate state assessment for students grades 3-8 and 11)
- ISBE is working on arranging for current juniors to be take the SAT for free in the Fall of 2020

As a district, our focus and priorities are on three things during this time, in the following order of importance:

- Planning to meet the general welfare needs of our students and families
- Communicating clearly and accurately with the known information
- Continue the education of our students utilizing a skills based approach

While we know that we have room for improvement and will learn much from this time, it is important for you to know our priorities and focus. We are trying to prioritize and keep things balanced for our students, staff, and families during this time. Our focus is on balancing the social emotional needs of our students/staff/families with the planned academic learning. There is no way we are going to replicate the learning in the classroom during these days, so it is important that we prioritize and keep the important things in focus. With that being said, here are some additional resources that might be beneficial for you to consider in the coming days related to our first two priorities:

- HBR announcements with our communication to students, staff, and parents (available until 4.7.2020) - <https://www.hbr429.org/>
- HBR Covid-19 information and resources - <https://www.hbr429.org/Page/3718>
- Dr. McGuire's YouTube Channel with video announcements - <https://tinyurl.com/vwco8h2>
- HBR Twitter account - <https://twitter.com/hbrcusd429>

- HBR Facebook account - <https://www.facebook.com/HBRCUSD429/>

Once we receive additional guidance from ISBE on the classification of days from March 31st through April 7th, we will provide further information. Until then, we will continue to work through scenarios and plan for the coming days.

#TogetherWeGotThis

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Travis L. McGuire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Dr. Travis L. McGuire
Superintendent