

Update From School District

March 16, 2020

Dear Mount Greylock Regional School District Community,

We are writing to give the community an update on the status of our closure and available resources and to remind families about accessing meals over the next three weeks. As was mentioned in the call and letter on Friday, the Mount Greylock Regional School District will remain closed until March 30, 2020. Based on the Governor's decision last night, we will extend that period and remain closed until **Tuesday, April 7, 2020**. This decision was made in an effort to limit any potential exposure of our students and staff to the COVID-19 novel coronavirus.

The community recognizes that our families may be challenged to provide nutritious meals for their children during this unexpected time away from school. As such, the Mount Greylock Regional School District will be offering access to grab-and-go lunches Monday through Friday for the next three weeks. Meals will be available for pick-up at the Lanesborough Elementary School and Williamstown Elementary School main entrances between 9:30 and 10:30 each day. In an attempt to assist the district in planning, you are asked to:

Call or email the food service department **the day before** using the following:

- Phone: (413) 458-9582 x1195
- Email: lunches@mgrhs.org
- Leave a message that includes the number of lunches you need and which school will be your pick-up location: Lanesborough Elementary School or Williamstown Elementary School
- Please identify the student name(s) for whom you are picking up meals.
- In order to assist us in advance planning, please indicate whether you will be accessing this meal service over the remaining days.

It is our sincere desire to help students feel connected to school and intellectually engaged during the closure, and the Department of Education is expecting schools to provide enrichment resources for students as a means of staying connected with school. However, distance learning programs are not being recognized by DESE as formal time on learning, and to that end schools are **not** being asked to replicate a regular school day nor course content. As a district, we will provide resources that can be used independently. When able, students may find teachers communicating with families directly about extension activities as well. Please note that these learning experiences are not mandatory and are not credit bearing. However, we encourage students to participate as a way of keeping themselves intellectually engaged.

If your child currently receives special education services, you will be receiving outreach from the Acting Director of Pupil Services, Patrick Priester, in the coming days. Many of the educational links we have provided will help your child maintain skills during the closure. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Priester at ppriester@mgrhs.org.

Regarding spring season athletics, please know that the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has delayed the start of the season to a date to be determined this afternoon. As such, there will be no tryouts for athletic teams until that date. Should this change, you will be notified by Lindsey von Holtz, Director of Athletics and Co-Curriculars.

In closing, these are unprecedented times, and this drastic step is meant to provide reduced exposure for students, staff members, and their families. Please continue doing the recommended actions for maintaining health such as frequent hand washing, social distancing, rest, hydration, exercise and good nutrition. We would like to thank everyone in advance for their anticipated cooperation and understanding as we navigate this challenge. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We appreciate everyone's understanding and patience during this difficult time. If you have any further questions or concerns please contact Superintendent Kimberley Grady (413) 652-5767.

Click here to review district [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or visit the Coronavirus page on the district website at <https://www.wlschools.org/page.cfm?p=1137>.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Grady, Superintendent

Andrea Wadsworth, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance

Robert Wnuk, Director of Operations

Eileen Belastock, Director of Academic Technology

Patrick Priester, Acting Director of Pupil Services

Mary MacDonald, Principal

Jacob N. Schutz, Asst. Principal

Joelle Brookner, Principal

Elea Kaatz, Asst. Principal

Nolan Pratt, Principal

Tim Sears, Director of Building and Ground

Tammy Jennings, Food Service Director