



Hello District families,

We are trying to limit our communications over spring break and also keep them shorter and easier to follow. Here are the latest updates and information:

1. Public Health Madison & Dane County (PHMDC) has updated its webpage to address [Frequently Asked Questions](#), which include:

- What to do if you are sick?
- How to prepare and stay safe?
- How can the community help?
- Updated orders from Governor Evers

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit the [Volunteer Your Time website](#).

If you have questions related to COVID-19, you can text "COVID19" to 211-211, visit [211wisconsin.org](https://www.wisconsin.gov/211), or call 211. Keep in mind that call volumes are high, please be patient and try to use the text or online options first.

2. PHMDC is also offering guidance on when to call 911 related to illness:

- Do you have a fever, cough, or shortness of breath?
 - If YES, isolate yourself at home (away from others in the home) and call your doctor. Be sure to share all your symptoms and details of any recent travel. Your doctor will decide if you need to be tested and will further instructions from there. If you do not have a doctor, you can call UW Health's hotline at 608-720-5300 for resources.
 - If NO, isolate at home until you feel better. Continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands often, and sanitize objects and surfaces.

You should call 911 (or call ahead to the emergency department) if your symptoms are too severe to be managed at home.

3. Does Governor Evers' Safe-at-Home order mean schools are closed indefinitely?

No, the order went into effect at 8 a.m. this morning and will remain in effect until 8 a.m. on Friday, April 24, or until a superseding order is issued.

Residents are being asked to stay home as much as possible and continue strong everyday preventive measures.

4. We are still having problems accessing Seesaw, Google Classrooms and-or BUZZ. What can we do?

Families of elementary students should contact their classroom teacher if they are having problems accessing Seesaw, which will be used for kindergarten through second grade, or

Google Classrooms, for those in grades 3-4. You can also send in a Help Desk ticket or call 829-9036. You will need to do so from your child's District email account.

Families of middle and high school students should use the BUZZ form if they are having any problems. If you have already done so but the password you were provided still isn't working, please submit again and indicate this is the second time you are reaching out.

You will hear from someone from our technology department or online instruction team as quickly as possible, although we can't guarantee it will be on the same day you reach out.

5. What are your plans regarding grading and attendance?

District administrators, principals and the online planning team continue to have discussions about the best approach to use once online instruction begins on Wednesday, April 1.

We have not determined if we will continue with letter grades, a pass-fail approach or a blended approach for the remainder of the school year. We will notify families before April 1.

Our goal with attendance is that every student is making progress toward the learning goals we expect for each of them. We realize some students may have barriers that make it challenging to be online regularly. Our educators -- including classroom and content teachers, advisory teachers, counselors, student and family engagement specialists, bilingual resource staff, special education teachers and others -- will be checking in with students who aren't engaged in the learning.

6. Will you continue to hold School Board meetings?

Yes, meetings will continue. Our next meeting is Monday, March 30 starting at 7 p.m. It will be held virtually and available on our [YouTube Channel](#) later in the week.

If you have a public comment, please [email Cheryl Janssen](#) by noon on March 30. Any questions or comments will be read by School Board president Bob Green at the start of the meeting. A list of all future meetings, along with the expanded agenda for each meeting, is available on the District website.

7. Will the school day need to be extended if the state opens schools? Will the school year need to be extended?

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is waiving the instructional hours requirement for any school district that requests a waiver due to the ongoing public health emergency so in all likelihood the school year will not need to be extended and minutes will not need to be added to the school day if schools reopen. The U.S. Department of Education has also indicated it will waive all federally-mandated assessments for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. The civics exam that students must take to graduate and required by the state since 2017 will also be waived for districts that submit a waiver.