



SUFFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Dr. John B. Gordon III, Superintendent

100 North Main Street

P.O. Box 1549

Suffolk, VA 23439 1549

757-925-6750 (Phone) 757- 925-2421 (Fax)

March 16, 2020

Dear Suffolk Public Schools Family:

As you are well aware, the last few days have been unprecedented across the state, country and world due the COVID-19, commonly known as the coronavirus. As I stated in my video on Friday, March 13, 2020, Governor Northam declared that all schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia be closed for a minimum of two weeks. As this situation continues to evolve, you have our promise that Suffolk Public Schools will keep you updated via school messenger, email, and our social media channels. Our top priority is the safety of our staff and students during this public health crisis.

Suffolk Public Schools will be on an altered schedule from Tuesday, March 17, 2020-Friday, March 27, 2020. Our school buildings will be closed at 3:00 P.M. on March 16, 2020. The majority of our staff will “telework” as we will follow the CDC guidelines of allowing staff to remain in their homes and to limit outside interactions. It is our plan to have only essential staff available to continue some of the daily operations of the school division.

Medication

A parent or guardian listed on the student’s emergency card will be able to pick up medication and/or treatment at the front office of their child’s school through Tuesday, March 17, 2020 between the hours of 8 A.M. - 12 noon. Please remember to bring ID for verification.

Food Distribution

Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 through March 27, 2020, we will have bagged meals that will include both breakfast and lunch available to our students. King’s Fork High School will be our food distribution hub and will be open for food distribution in the school lobby from 9 A.M.-12 noon. Students will need to be present to receive food, as meals. Our Food and Nutrition department will distribute food to our students through our SPS transportation

weekdays from 9 A.M.-12 noon to the following schools and with the following transportation schedule:

Route 1 Bus 121

Temple Bethel Entrance 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Plummer Blvd. & Skinner Blvd. - 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Bullock Mobile Park – 10:00 - 10:45 AM

Route 2 Bus 414

Townpoint & Pughsville Rd. 9:00 – 9:15 AM
600 Old College Dr. – 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Col. Fred Cherry Middle – 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Route 3 Bus 478

Chuckatuck Square – 9:00 – 9:15 AM
YMCA Godwin Blvd – 9:30 – 9:45 AM
King's Landing – 10:00 - 10:00 AM

Route 4 Bus 495

Elephant's Fork Elementary – 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Pruden Center 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Saratoga Park 10:00 – 10:15 AM
Lakeside Park 10:30 – 10:45 AM

Route 5 Bus 425

Library Parking Lot W. Washington Street 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Peanut Park 9:30 – 10:45 AM
Colander Bishop 11:00 – 11:15 AM
Corner of Finney and Holladay Street AM 11:30 -11:45

Route 6 Bus 99

Kilby Shores Elementary 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Suffolk Station 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Nancy Drive (Autumn Ridge & Lynnhill) 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Route 7 Bus 411

Hoffler Apartments 9:00 – 9:15 AM
BTW School 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Hollywood (Community Center Pool) 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Lake Kennedy (PARK) 10:30 – 10:45 AM
Suffolk Recreation Center (6th STREET) 11:00 – 11:15 AM

Route 8 Bus 14

Pughsville 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Creekside Elementary 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Bullock Mobile Park 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Route 9 Bus 115

Pioneer 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Holland Community Center 9:30 – 9:45 AM
J & L Tack Shop 10:00 – 10:15 AM
Holland Ballfield 11:00 – 11:15 AM

Route 10 Bus 408

Lake Kennedy (Park) 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Nansemond River High 9:45 – 10:00 AM

Route 11 Bus 120

Wilson Pines 9:00 – 9:15 AM
Heritage Acres 9:30 – 9:45 AM
Magnolia Lakes 10:00 – 10:15 AM

Continuity of Learning

During our school closure, students are encouraged to utilize the materials that have been provided by teachers and staff. Instructional packets went home with elementary students on Friday, March 13, 2020. At the secondary level, we encourage our students to use the SPS connect initiative to participate in learning activities through Google classroom, the Google suite, and additional instructional resources that can be found at www.spsk12.net/continuity_of_learning

Student work will not be graded, but will need to be completed to ensure that instructional knowledge is not lost during the closure. Please email your teachers for individual student questions and teacher office hours.

Spring Break/School Calendar

At this time, no decisions have been made about altering the nine weeks marking period or Standards of Learning Assessments. In our conference call with the Virginia Department of Education on Friday, March 13, 2020, school divisions were made aware that the missed days

will not count against them, and that the SOL calendar will be adjusted based on the total number of days missed. Also, no decisions have been made to change Spring Break at this time. We will keep you updated on any changes to the school calendar.

We encourage you to continue to check our website and social media channels for more information during and after our school closure. Suffolk Public Schools would like to thank you for your patience during this time and we will continue to support our students, families, and each other.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John B. Gordon III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. John B. Gordon III
Division Superintendent