



NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428
TELEPHONE (814) 725-8671 • FAX (814) 725-9380

Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager

Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

REV. 4/3/2020 - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (4) REGARDING COVID-19 SCHOOL CLOSURE

1. How long will the closure last?
 - Governor Tom Wolf ordered a “stay put” for the State of Pennsylvania through April 30, 2020. The North East School District campus will be closed through April 30, 2020, or until further notice.
2. Can I get on campus?
 - The campus including all playgrounds, athletic fields, basketball/tennis courts, and buildings are closed to the public through Thursday, April 30, 2020, per Governor’s order. **However**, essential employees will be permitted on campus as well as the parents picking up meals through the drive through grab-and-go. In addition, students accessing the WiFi hot spot will also be permitted in the WiFi hot spot parking lot.
3. Is the district offering on-line learning for all students during this school closure?
 - YES. The district began virtual on-line learning through Google Classroom on Monday, March 30, 2020. The building administrators and technology department have been working to ensure our students have access to technology or an alternative plan. We have created a WiFi hot spot which is located in the Intermediate Center pool area parking lot. The WiFi hot spot is open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Sunday. The buildings will be closed. The parking lot does have video surveillance as well as the Borough and State Police will monitor for safety. Technology Issues can be directed to helpdesk@nesd1.org.
4. Does my student have to participate in on-line learning?
 - YES. On-line learning counts for student and for teacher days during the mandatory state closure. Students need to log into Google Classroom and complete teacher assignments or complete alternative assignments they received through special arrangements made with their teacher and building level principals/assistant principals. As of Friday, April 3, 2020, teachers, administration, secretaries, and district staff have made multiple attempts to reach every student and family in the North East School District to ensure they have what they need to be successful; therefore, every student should be working on some type of on-line or alternative assignment. Please call building administration if you or your child needs help. Do not stress, this is new to the entire nation.
5. Will students be able to obtain breakfast/lunch bagged meal from the school during the school closure?
 - YES. The district operates an 18 and under drive through grab-and go-meal pick-up system. ALL meals for the weeks of April 13th through April 30th will be distributed from the drive through pick-up at the high school auditorium entrance which will begin at 10:30 a.m. and close promptly at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday; on Thursday, students will receive two meals. Parents **MUST** complete the website form by 10:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 8th** located on the District website at www.nesd1.org. Please share link with others. ONLY the Rt. 89 entrance is open.
6. Will my senior student graduate on time?
 - Senior diplomas will be conferred on June 3, 2020. Seniors will be provided every opportunity to complete assignments in order to meet the graduation requirements during the fourth marking period.



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7. Will North East have a graduation ceremony?
 - At this time, we are still waiting to hear from the Governor and Secretary of Education on whether or not students will be able to return to school buildings during the 19-20 school year. Regardless, the district will make every attempt to provide some type of special graduation ceremony for our children.
8. What is the status of athletics and school activities?
 - All school activities are either cancelled or postponed during the duration of the mandatory closure. We were told directly from the Governor's Office that "school-based activities are covered under the closure". This would include practices for athletics, plays, musicals, mock trial, etc.
9. Will North East School District offices and school main offices be functioning during the school closure?
 - Yes. The offices will not be open to the public to support Erie County and the Governor's stay put efforts to slow down the spread of COVID-19 through April 30, 2020. Essential staff will report on a limited basis.
10. What will happen to the school calendar?
 - The Governor has stated the following: Be aware that no school district will be penalized if it fails to meet the 180 day or school hour requirements. A draft calendar is located in the district's draft Continuity of Education Plan located on the district website at www.nesd1.org which is required by PDE. The last day for NE students will be June 2, 2020. All regional school districts in IU5 (Crawford, Erie, and Warren) will end on or before June 5, 2020. Again, PA districts are taking daily direction from Erie County Department of Health, the Secretary of Education, CDC, and the Governor.
11. Will Early Connections be open during the closure?
 - The Early Connections Program housed in the NESD will be closed during the mandatory school closure.
12. If I am a parent or student, will I be able to access school property during the school closure?
 - The school property and buildings are closed to all public during the school closure. Exceptions would be for grab-and-go meals, deliveries, medicine, and for WiFi hot spot access.
13. How will the district manage the return to school?
 - The district has been and will continue to monitor COVID-19. The goal of this closure is to slow the spread of the virus. The closure is not going to eliminate the virus. The district will be following Department of Health and CDC guidance regarding when to be at school and when not to be at school.
14. Are there plans to reschedule events that had to be cancelled such as the prom, musicals, and field trips?
 - Information about the spread of COVID-19 and the local, state, and federal attempts to manage COVID-19 are changing to rapidly to commit to rescheduling events at this time.
15. What if my child is stressed out during this time or just needs to talk to someone?
 - If your child needs assistance with classwork, please have them email their teacher or building principal/assistant principal. If your child needs technology help, please have them contact the help desk at helpdesk@nesd1.org. *(continued below)*



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(No. 15 – continued)

- If your child needs to speak with someone due to feeling stressed or feeling isolated at this time, please have them contact one of our school counselors:
 - High School
 - Mrs. Dawn Coletta – School Counselor - Erie County Technical School/Learning Support, (IEP/GIEP) - dawncoletta@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Laura Panek - School Counselor - Freshman & Juniors - lpanek@nesd1.org
 - Mr. Matt Puskar - School Counselor - Sophomores & Seniors - mpuskar@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Heidi Martin – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison – hmartin@nesd1.org
 - Middle School
 - Mrs. Nicole Welch – School Counselor – nwelch@nesd1.org
 - Mrs. Heidi Martin – Student Assistance (SAP) Liaison – hmartin@nesd1.org
 - Elementary Center - Intermediate and Davis Elementary Schools
 - Ms. Kimberly Hart – School Counselor – khart@nesd1.org
- If you or someone you know is having a mental health crisis or needs support, there are several resources available (*Not NESD resources*):
 - Safe Harbor WarmLine – 877-550-4007 open Tuesday-Saturday, noon-7:30 p.m. for anyone who just needs someone to talk to someone.
 - Safe Harbor Crisis Center – Emergency Line - 814-456-2014
- If you need help or assistance with anything during this time, please reach out to our district administrators:
 - High School: Dr. William Renne – wrenne@nesd1.org
Mr. Nathan Otis – notis@nesd1.org
 - Middle School: Mr. Greg Beardsley – beardsle@nesd1.org
Dr. Steve Karns – skarns@nesd1.org
 - Intermediate Elementary:
Mr. Brian Emick - bemick@nesd1.org
 - Davis Primary: Dr. Jennifer Ritter – jritter@nesd1.org
 - Special Education: Mrs. Brianne Hodges: bhodges@nesd1.org
 - Technology: Mr. Tyler Wilson – twilson@nesd1.org
Mr. Peter Zielinski – pzielinski@nesd1.org
 - Superintendent: Dr. Michele S. Hartzell – mhartzell@nesd1.org

PLEASE CONTINUE TO VIEW NEW INFORMATION ON THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE AT WWW.NESD1.ORG OR THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST FACEBOOK PAGE AT <https://www.facebook.com/NorthEastSchoolDistrict/>. THESE ARE THE OFFICIAL NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT PAGES AND ARE MAINTAINED BY NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF. THE DISTRICT DOES NOT MONITOR, MAINTAIN, OR COMMENT ON ANY OTHER SITES.