



# Blue Ridge School District

5150 School Road, New Milford PA 18834  
570-465-3141  
Administrative Offices



March 31, 2020

Re: Update on School Closure

BR Students and Families –

I hope this message finds all of our students and families well and safe as we move into the third week of our school closure. Yesterday, we posted on our webpage and social media accounts that Governor Wolf extended the school closure indefinitely. Please note, that school will not resume for students on April 9. Here at the school, we have many questions and very few answers regarding when or if school will resume this school year. With this closure moving to an indefinite timeframe by our Governor, we will continue to keep all of our school activities (ex: NHS ceremonies, athletics, musical, concerts, field trips, etc) listed as postponed, until we know for certain we have to cancel them. Graduation will be one of the most important items for our school to address and as we get to the month of May we evaluate the guidance being provided by our Federal and State governments and then make decisions on how to best honor our Class of 2020 Seniors.

As I mentioned in my letter last week, I continue to encourage all of our students and families to do our part and continue to work together by following the guidance being issued by our state DOH, CDC, and also from the federal level. Please take a few minutes to review the additional information I have shared below. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the building principal for your child's respective school. All phone numbers and email addresses are listed on our school webpage ([www.brsd.org](http://www.brsd.org)).

Thank you,

Matthew Button/BRSD Superintendent

**School Closure Extended:**

- On Monday, March 30, Governor Wolf issued the following statement, “All PA schools will remain closed until further notice”. Please note, that school will not resume for students on April 9.

### **Continuity of Education / Enrichment and Review:**

- ***Scope:*** The educators of the Blue Ridge School District will attempt to post and share optional reinforcement and enrichment learning activities for students to complete through a variety of avenues; such as Remind, ClassDojo, Google classroom, BRSD webpage, etc. All posted or mailed learning activities are optional and will not be graded or assessed for the purposes of determining academic grades, GPA, or for the earning of academic credits. There will be optional learning activities for each credit-bearing course that students are enrolled in. Again, the learning activities will reinforce and/or enrich previous knowledge and skills learned.
- ***Technology Access:*** BRSD educators are making contact with all of their students to identify who does not have access to technology devices or access to the internet. Those students who do not have access to technology equipment or the internet will be mailed weekly educational activity packets.
- ***Support for Students:*** Educators, school counselors, and the school nurse will attempt to make contact with students weekly and also be available to be contacted by phone, email, ClassDojo, Remind, or through Google Classroom. Educators will attempt to contact students on their class rosters each week to determine if they are participating and to provide any assistance that may be required. Special education teachers will contact students on their caseloads to provide any support associated with the off-grade level activities.
- Each optional learning activity that is posted or mailed will have alternative activities that are off-grade level to support students who may have off-grade level academic skills or receive additional services, such as Title I, ESL, Gifted, and Speech. Note that all activities posted are available to all students.
- ***Duration:*** The Blue Ridge School District will provide an Enrichment and Review Continuity of Education Plan to students beginning on March 30, 2020 and will continue until face-to-face instruction resumes or until the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
- This plan may be modified to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of delivery of educational services pending the longevity of the closure and/or changes in PDE mandates or legislative action.

### **Assessments:**

- PSSA, Keystone, and PASA assessments have been canceled for the 2019-2020 school year.
- College Board currently has SAT's scheduled for the first weekend in June, but they will make a decision about whether they can safely hold that administration as soon as it is feasible, given the public health situation.
- College Board will be offering AP exams in an online format. For more information access the following link: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>

### **School Lunch Program:**

- Our food service department is continuing to provide school lunches for any students within our school district. We encourage all of our families to take advantage to this great program. If interested, please follow the procedures below.
  - BRSD will deliver school lunches on-site and at remote locations and follow the school days on our current school calendar. With the school closure being moved to indefinite,

our school will plan for school lunches through the month of April on the following days; April 6-7, 14-17, 20-24, and 27-30.

- If you are interested, please follow the steps below.
  - To reserve a school lunch, email ([lunch@brsd.org](mailto:lunch@brsd.org)) or call 570-465-3141x614.
  - When you email or call, please provide the following information:
    - Students names
    - # of lunches
    - Location for pick up. Choices are:
      - Great Bend Fire Hall
      - Hallstead Fire Hall
      - New Milford Fire Hall
      - Jackson Baptist Church
      - Blue Ridge SD
- Additional items to note:
  - Pick-up time is 12:00 PM for all remote locations and 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM at BRSD.
  - If you have any challenges accessing one of the pick-up locations listed above, please call 570-465-3141 (x603 or x607).
  - During the closure the school lunch program is non-congregate. Students do not need to be present for pick-up.