

East Haddam Public Schools

Brian S. Reas, Superintendent of Schools

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March 13, 2020

Dear Families and Staff:

I am writing to inform you that the East Haddam Public Schools will be closed indefinitely for a minimum of two weeks, effective at the end of the school day, today March 13, 2020. This closure includes the closure of the school buildings to all groups effective immediately. I will send updates each Thursday with any additional information.

The information on this situation is changing on an ongoing basis. Two weeks is the period for school closures that was agreed to by many superintendents in our region this morning. While I am optimistic, we do not have any concrete advice that indicates that two weeks will be enough time. In my weekly updates, I will give you more information as it comes available regarding re-opening schools.

As an administrative team, we have discussed options for distance learning in the event that this closure is extended beyond the two-weeks. At this time, the Connecticut State Department of Education has cautioned districts from utilizing this approach due to concerns over instructional consistency (especially in the early grades), equity of access both intra-district and inter-district, as well as, disruption of special education services. We will continue, during this school closure, to seek ways to provide supplemental education to our students. Should we be able to utilize a distance-learning model, we will notify parents, students, and staff members of how this will be implemented.

I think it is important to mention there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the town of East Haddam at this time.

There will be no parent-teacher conferences, 504 meetings, or PPT meetings in the next two weeks. We will contact you with alternate plans when we know more about our schedule.

We will continue to meet with public health officials, local government, and education officials to determine the best course of action going forward.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Feel free to reach out to our offices if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Brian S. Reas
Superintendent of Schools

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