



## **Pearl City Family and Student E-Learning and Closure Information**

### **Rationale**

We believe that it is important for Pearl City School District 200 to have an E-learning option given the potential for schools to not be in session for a prolonged period of time. Prolonged closure without academic activity would negatively impact students in a number of ways. More importantly, for all students, we believe that having the option of remote learning days reinforces the fact that teaching and learning are not confined to class periods or physical classrooms.

We are taking this strategic approach not because we think by doing so, we will stop an epidemic; we are simply trying to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19. Our job is to provide quality instruction to our students in a safe and welcoming environment, and at this time, we feel that we are no longer able to provide quality instruction and maintain an environment that is safe for our staff and students. The transition to E-learning is a decision made to attain the following goals:

- 1) Provide students a safe, continuous learning environment with as few interruptions as possible;
- 2) Eliminate the need for students and staff to make up days at the conclusion of the school calendar.

# Where to get the most updated information on coronavirus

Here are two very valuable resources:

- The U.S. Department of Education has resources linked directly to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [www.ed.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ed.gov/coronavirus)
- A further resource is the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) website, which contains more statewide information <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

## School Communication

Please go to Skyward

<https://skyward.iscorp.com/scripts/wsisd.dll/WService=wsedupearlcityil/seplog01.w> and ensure that your family's contact information, including phone, email, and any other information is correct. During E-learning, please make sure that you are frequently checking the email account that is listed in Skyward Family Access, and also that your students are checking both district email. For grades 7-12, your children work with Google Classroom on a daily basis, and they should be familiar with how to sign in and access these materials.

Updates will be sent out as frequently as possible from the district via email. Please monitor your email daily for important information from the district and/or your child's school and teachers.

Teachers and administrators will be available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. via email for your questions and concerns. Please do not hesitate to reach out to staff members if you need assistance or support. To contact a teacher you can go to the Pearl City Website <http://www.pcwolves.net/directory> There will be someone at the school to also help answer questions that may arise.

# E-Learning Plans and Technology

Starting Tuesday March 17th, the District's e-learning plan will be put into place. E-Learning will take place during the governor's mandated closure time. E-learning days will not take place during Spring Break. As you know, we have been preparing to continue the educational experiences of our students in the event of emergency closures.

## What is E-Learning

This past year, the Illinois State Board of Education formally allowed school districts to adopt e-learning days. An e-learning plan is just a way of describing how each school district will continue to educate their students if students and staff are required to stay at home due to weather or a public health issues.

E-learning days were originally established for inclement weather days. Instead of taking a "snow day" that has to be made up at the end of the school year, Illinois school districts can now legally hold e-learning days. The advantage of an e-learning day is that it counts as a regular day of school. In other words, it does not need to be "made up" at the end of the school year.

## Specifics of PC E-Learning plan

On an e-learning day the teachers and administration shall be scheduled to work from 8:30-1:30pm. Teachers shall be available for technology support or if a student has a question regarding an assignment.

During e-learning students must be provided work from the teachers they were assigned to see on the missed day from multiple subject areas that equate to no more than 5 hours of participation. The work will be assigned to the students on the emergency day and will be due to be submitted back to the teacher or staff member. Students will have up to five days to complete the assignments once coming back to school. Teachers may assign multiple day's work if the district is in need of being closed for a known extended time.

### Elementary Students K-6

Elementary students do not take their chromebook home. Therefore, the elementary teachers will be putting together research based assignments that the students can do while school is closed. Teachers will be handing out these assignments on Monday. Teachers will also be able

to place information for students on their website pages and be able to access the information at home. Please check the teacher website which can be found in the directory tab on the school website. The assignments will focus on Reading and Math. Special Ed. teachers will create assignments based on the goals of their students.

### Junior High

The school district will allow the Junior High students to take their chromebook home during the school closure. Teachers will be able to download assignments on Google Classroom on a regular basis. Teachers may also place multiple assignments on the Google Classroom so students are prepared ahead of time. SPED teachers will work with students on their individual goals. Teachers may also send assignments home with the students the previous evening, so students can do the work on the chromebook.

### High School Students

The school district allows HS students to take chromebooks home. Therefore, teachers will place assignments on Google Classroom. Teachers will be able to download assignments on Google Classroom on a regular basis. Teachers may also place multiple assignments on the Google Classroom so students are prepared ahead of time and in case they do not have access to the internet. SPED teachers will work with students on their individual goals. Teachers may also send assignments home with the students the previous evening, so students can do the work on the chromebook.

Students are familiar with how to login to Google Classroom. This will be the main platform used for activities. Students are required to check Google Classroom for each of their courses and complete these assignments. We understand that this is new to our students, and we are allowing up to 5 days to complete the task.. While students will have up to five days, they are encouraged to turnin work in a timely manner. Assignments will be graded by the teachers.

We realize that students might work on activities for more than one day. We also know that they might work on activities outside of school hours. Both situations are fine. Teachers will monitor completion of work through Google Classroom and/or in other on-line programs. These are unusual circumstances, and we all do the best we can. We understand it might not be possible for your student to complete all learning activities.

## How long do I have to complete assignments

While we would like for students to complete all assignments in a timely manner, all students have up to five days from the day an assignment is given to complete the assignment. You will see below attendance is based on completing the work. Assignments will be part of the students' grade.

## Attendance

Student attendance will be taken based on the work that is completed for the assignments by the teachers. All work will be posted on the district website or through Google Classroom by 8:30am each day. The work will need to be completed and turned in either electronically or in paper form to verify the student's participation on the e-learning day.

## Special Education, ELL, and Interventions

Instructional staff who provide services to our students with disabilities will make every effort to deliver the service minutes indicated in each student's IEP utilizing the platforms available. These specialists will be in touch via email with you and your student to provide services as E-learning allows.

## Families with No Internet/Device

We understand that some families have difficulty accessing assignments or have spotty internet access. We have included options below for families with limited internet access.

- [Everyoneon.org](http://Everyoneon.org) is a resource for low-cost devices and free internet, which includes several opportunities to obtain inexpensive internet based on your situation.

If there is no internet access or if poor weather and power outages create issues for internet connections staff will work with the student/parent to make arrangements for an opportunity for the work to be completed at a later date. Parents should reach out to the school building principal to make arrangements or to let people know they do not have internet access.

## Extra-curricular Sports, Clubs, and Activities

During this closure, all student extra-curricular events, including sporting events, have been cancelled or postponed. This includes practices. The weight room is closed to everyone even if the school is open. Any adjustment to these cancellations will be sent

out to families via our standard communication means (Skylert messages, social media, etc.) by the Superintendent or building principal. This is a fluid situation and could change depending on recommendations from local and state health professionals.

## Medications at School

A staff member or administrator will be at school. Medications and other items may be picked up from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

## Spring Break

The district administration and School Board will be discussing the possibility of either leaving Spring Break the week of April 6-10 or moving Spring Break up to the week of March 23-27 at the school board meeting on Wednesday night, March 18th. More information will be provided on Thursday.

## Breakfast and Lunch

If your child qualifies for free or reduced lunch we will have a grab and go sack breakfast and lunch available to be picked up at the school between 9:00-10:30 each day.

## Who can I contact for help/questions?

One administrator and at least one office staff member will be available at the building to answer questions via phone call and email. Please call the school and we will be able to help with anything we can.

If you have a specific question or concern about the first iteration of our classroom to E-learning model, or a technology issue, please feel free to reach out to us. If you have a question about the specific lesson or activity, please communicate via email to the teacher. For technical issues, email [swoodley@pcwolves.net](mailto:swoodley@pcwolves.net) and we will respond as promptly as we can. Staff members are available to help via email from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. during E-learning days.