

March 25, 2020

GFW Families,

We continue to get updates from Governor Walz and members of the Minnesota Department of Education staff related to COVID-19 and the expectations for Distance Learning, which will begin on **Monday March 30th**. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as our staff has been putting this plan together.

Before I share the Distance Learning Plan, I want to remind you the district is providing the services below.

Free Meals for Individuals Ages (1-18)

We will continue to provide free meals for all individuals ages 1-18 in the GFW School District. These meals will be available for pick up at each of our three school sites between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Individuals will not be able to eat the lunches in the school building. When the meals are picked up you will receive a lunch for that day and a breakfast for the following day.

If you are unable to pick the meals up at the school, there is an option to have the meals delivered to your residence. Again, the delivery would be a lunch for that day and a breakfast for the following day. The deliveries will come between 11:00 and 1:00.

- ❑ **Beginning the week of March 30th, the meals picked up or delivered on Thursday will also include meals for Friday.**
- ❑ **If you are interested in your child(ren) receiving meals during this closure time, please contact Beth Walter at 507-207-2201.**

Child-Care

The T-Bird Club will remain open for those who were using it prior to the school closure, children of healthcare workers/emergency workers and for children of school staff.

Distance Learning

GFW Schools will be starting Distance Learning with students on Monday, March 30th. Students and parents should be checking their email on a daily basis.

The distance learning plan for some grade levels includes the use of learning packets. District staff will be delivering those various learning packets throughout the district on Friday, March 27th and Monday, March 30th. Please don't be surprised if a school district vehicle pulls up to your resident as they are likely delivering instructional materials.

Today, Governor Walz indicated his plan is to have Distance Learning be in place from March 30th through April 30th. On May 1st and 4th school staff would be provided time to prepare for students to return to school buildings for traditional education to start up. Governor Walz did indicate this plan is subject to change depending on the number of reported virus cases.

GFW Schools has been and continues to work on providing hotspots for those students without internet access at their home. Until those are in place, instructional materials will be provided in paper form to students.

On Friday, March 27th you will find a document on our website under Distance Learning that provides more specific details on technology, communication, lesson designs for the various levels and expectations for staff and students.

Thank you,
Lonnie Seifert
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