



Metcalfe County Board of Education

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Benny Lile Ed. D,
Superintendent

As of today, Thursday, March 12, 2020, Kentucky school districts have not received a directive to close. We have been asked by Gov. Beshear to have plans in place that would enable us to facilitate an extended closing within 72 hours notice. Should conditions warrant such an extended closing of schools, Metcalfe County Schools would take the following actions.

Metcalfe County Schools Extended Closing Plan (if needed)

Should the decision be made to close schools, it will be announced immediately. Please disregard rumors and innuendo. Within minutes of the decision, we will initiate a One Call, post to all social media and web sites, and notify all normal media outlets.

While we have not been given specific directions concerning the length of any proposed closing, we are operating under the assumption that it would be a minimum of two weeks with the possibility of lasting longer. I should add, there has been no directive at this time concerning the cancellation of extra-curricular activities.

MCS will use the same procedure that has been implemented the past several years for "snow days" that being the use of Non-Traditional Instructional Days (NTI). Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our staff using digital resources for instruction and assignments on a daily basis, our schools are well-positioned to deal with a situation such as this.

Grades 3-12 will predominantly use the online learning management system Canvas for the delivery of instruction and collection of assignments. Plans will be detailed below for students who may not have online access. Grades K-2 will use paper copies of instructional materials that will be sent home.

Communication will be critical as we work through this process. Our ultimate goal on any day is to advocate and support student learning. While we would obviously prefer the daily interaction and engagement that comes with the dynamics of a regular school setting, we believe we can make the best of this unique situation and still facilitate a high level of learning for our students. If any parent/guardian feels their child is not being supported or being provided with adequate instructional materials, please contact the building principal. Each school will provide a variety of contact methods, as will our district office.

Current plans are for our food service department to continue and offer meal services. We will have "pick up" stations throughout the county as well as coordinating door to door delivery as needed. The door-to-door service will also allow for the delivery of instructional materials and for the pick-up of assignments for students who may not have internet access. We have plans to provide staff at these stations during select hours that will be able to provide tutoring and answer questions concerning lessons or other instructional issues.

I want to be very clear... no student will be punished or held responsible for digitally assigned work that they do not have access to. We will work with all parties to ensure alternate instructional methods are available for these students.

This is undoubtedly uncharted territory for all of us. We will work together to make the best of this situation. Let me stress again how critical communication is. If something is not working for your student, please contact us so we can work through the issues. You can be assured that we will provide updates daily and more often if needed.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benny Lile".

Benny Lile, Ed.D

Superintendent, Metcalfe County Schools