



FAQs FOR TVSD COVID-19 RELATED CLOSURE

Q: Will there be changes to the PSSA / Keystone testing schedules?

A: On March 19, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) announced the cancellation of all PSSA testing and Keystone exams for the 2019-20 school year as a result of COVID-19. This includes the Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA).

Q: Will there be changes to the AP testing schedule?

A: The College Board has announced the development of a new, at-home testing option with two different testing dates. More details are expected by April 3. The College Board is also developing free live and on-demand AP courses that can be accessed remotely. More information is available at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates>.

Q: How long will TVSD be closed?

A: The State has mandated closure from March 16 through March 27. We plan to provide additional communication regarding the closure as necessary.

Q: How will this closure affect the school calendar?

A: The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has stated that "no school district will be penalized if it fails to meet the 180 day or school hours requirements." Spring break currently scheduled for April 8, 2020, to April 13, 2020 may remain the same or may be used as make up days as defined on the District calendar. We do not foresee a change in the end of the school year for students, though we will not be able to make a final determination until our schools are open and we have clarity from the State.



Q: Will the 3rd Marking Period still end on March 27 for secondary students?

A: No. When schools reopen, we will provide additional information at the end of the 3rd marking period.

Q: When will meetings be rescheduled?

A: All parent/guardian meetings, including IEP, GIEP, Kindergarten Registration, school meetings, will be rescheduled once the District reopens.

Q: Should students continue schoolwork over the next two weeks?

A: The District page directs parents and students to optional online engagement and enrichment activities for students.

Q: Will the work provided count toward my child's grades?

A: No. All provided optional activities are for engagement and enrichment. These activities are not graded.

Q: My child was not in school on Friday and did not bring schoolwork home. Can they go into their school to pick up academic work?

A: No. We are minimizing access to the buildings. Please see the District website for a list of Engagement and Enrichment resources.

Q: My child has medicine that is at school, what should we do?

A: Please contact your medical provider and/or insurance carrier for instructions on how to request a refill. If a refill is not available and the medication is needed, please email your building principal.

Q: Can you provide me with resources to help explain coronavirus to my child?



[Talking with children about Coronavirus Disease 2019](#)

[How to talk to your child about coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Talking to Kids About the Coronavirus](#)

Q: Will the district continue to provide meals for students during the closure?

A: Yes. TVSD will continue to provide assistance to our students during the closure. Any changes to this service will be communicated to families.

Q: How often will parents/guardians be notified of updates?

A: We will continue communicating with families as additional information becomes available.

Q: Will this affect Course Selection for 2020-21?

A: Information will be communicated to 8th through 11th-grade families the week of March 16th about the online course selection process. TVMS course selection information has been sent home with students and posted on the middle school [website](#). All of this information will be updated, as needed.

Q: My student has a 1:1 Chromebook and they damaged it or they need a loaner device; will the district provide a device to borrow?

A. While most 5-12 grade students who had a damaged device were already issued a loaner, the district is prepared to provide a loaner device to those who did not receive one previously. Please email TVSD Technology Director, Jeff Buettler at jbuettler@tvsd.org for an appointment to pick-up a loaner device.

Q: If I don't have the internet at home, how will I access the optional enrichment and engagement activities provided by the school?

A: Some internet providers are supplying free or low cost access. Each provider will have



different options; **please contact your provider directly**. Example: Comcast Essentials is providing internet options for families during this time - <https://www.internetessentials.com/>

Q: What is the status of extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletic activities?

A: To ensure the safety of our students and community, beginning on Saturday, March 14 through April 14 all school field trips, assemblies, and use of our facilities by outside members will be canceled or, if applicable, postponed. In addition, extra-curricular, co-curricular and athletics will be postponed through March 31st. Please note that this is subject to change and we will provide updated information as needed.

Q: What about the high school prom on May 2 and graduation on June 6?

A: The status of these events will continue to be evaluated.

Q: What should I do if I have a question for the school office?

A: Contact your school's administration via email with any questions.

Q: What community and mental health resources are available?

A: Mental Health Crisis Hotlines:

Service Access and Management (SAM)- 610-236-0530 or text 484-816-7865 (RUOK)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline- 800-273-8255 (TALK)

Crisis Text Line- Text 'HOME' to 741741

Teen line- Text 'Teen' to 839863

Trevor Project (LGBTQ)- 866-488-7386, or text START to 678678

On-line Counseling Resources (Some may have a cost, but many are reduced due to the



coronavirus situation):

Talkspace- www.talkspace.com

Betterhelp- www.betterhelp.com

Online-therapy-www.onlinetherapy.com

Other Community Resources

Greater Berks Food Bank- Call 610-926-5802 or visit <https://helpingharvest.org>.

Salvation Army- Financial, clothing and food assistance, Offices in Reading and Boyertown.

Call 610-373-5208 or 610-367-4089.

Berks Community Action Program- Financial resources, case management services, and referrals. Located at 645 Penn Street, 3rd Floor, Reading PA 19601. Call 610-376-6571.

Safe Berks- Free counseling, housing, and services to those experiencing domestic violence. Located at 255 Chestnut Street, Reading PA 19601. Call 610-373-1206.

Berks County Assistance Office- Apply for food stamps, cash assistance and medical assistance. Located at 625 Cherry Street, Reading PA 19602. Call 866-215-3912.

Families may also contact local churches in the area, who may be able to provide counseling support, food resources and other needed support.