



March 24, 2020

Dear JPS Families:

In accordance with Gov. Tate Reeves' State of Emergency Declaration for statewide school closings, the Jackson Public School District will be closed until April 17, 2020, at a minimum.

In order to ensure that continuous learning occurs during our school closures, we are offering distance learning assignments for our scholars. Our *Learning-at-Home Plan* includes a variety of resources and suggested schedules that you can use to help your child stay focused during this critical time. This valuable resource is located at [www.jackson.k12.ms.us](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us) on the [Coronavirus Response Page \(www.jackson.k12.ms.us/CoronavirusResponse\)](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us/CoronavirusResponse). The *Learning-at-Home* link provides access to various online learning platforms, printed resources, recorded lessons, and Read Aloud book chats produced by JPS Instructional Television (ITV). The book chats will also air on our ITV Channel 19 on Comcast.

To combat learning loss, instructional packets for Pre-K-8 grades have been made available online. Look for them under *Learning-at-Home* on our [Coronavirus Response Page](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us/CoronavirusResponsePage). Scholars are permitted to write their answers on their own paper. The first instructional packet provided activities for March 16-27, 2020. Beginning March 30, the second instructional packet will be posted with activities for March 30-April 17. Additional packets will be provided if the school closure is extended.

Printed instructional packets are available from 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. at all Grab-and-Go meal sites for scholars in grades Pre-K–12. We are asking that these printed instructional packets be reserved for our families that have no internet access or smart device at home.

The Grab-and-Go meal sites are as follows:

North Sites	Central Sites	South Sites
<b>Boyd Elementary</b> <b>4531 Broadmeadow Street</b>	<b>Blackburn Middle</b> <b>1311 W. Pearl Street</b>	<b>Marshall Elementary</b> <b>2909 Oak Forest Drive</b>
<b>North Jackson Elementary</b> <b>650 James M. Davis Drive</b>	<b>Galloway Elementary</b> <b>186 Idlewild Street</b>	<b>Peoples Middle</b> <b>2940 Belvedere Drive</b>
<b>Spann Elementary</b> <b>1615 Brecon Drive</b>	<b>Lake Elementary</b> <b>472 Mt. Vernon Avenue</b>	<b>Whitten Middle</b> <b>210 Daniel Lake Boulevard</b>
	<b>Raines Elementary</b> <b>156 N. Flag Chapel Road</b>	<b>Wilkins Elementary</b> <b>1970 Castle Hill Drive</b>
	<b>Smith Elementary</b> <b>3900 Parkway Avenue</b>	

## **Canvas and Google Classroom**

The Canvas and/or Google Classroom platforms **may be** used for our middle school scholars and **will be** used for our high school scholars for teachers to provide coursework and assignments. Scholars can access Canvas and Google Classroom using their Clever username and password. Clever can be accessed at <https://clever.com/in/jpsd>.

Beginning March 30, 2020, all teachers will have office hours through Zoom Videoconference, email, and/or telephone during the *Learning-At-Home* designated course/class times to assist scholars with questions about assignments. The *Learning-At-Home* times are listed on the suggested *Learning-At-Home* schedules. Instructions on how to access teachers during this time will be sent through Canvas, Google Classroom or School Status (email/text message).

## **Support for Exceptional Education Services**

Exceptional education services will be provided to eligible scholars with disabilities during the school closure. By continuing to ensure that a free and appropriate public education is afforded to scholars with disabilities, the following supports will be provided:

- Equal access to instruction with accommodations, to the maximum extent possible;
- Parent(s) and scholars included in decision-making for services, where appropriate; and
- Parent(s) and committee members notified of proposed actions regarding services.

## **Grading of All Assignments**

Scholars are expected to keep and maintain completed work, whether from the instructional packets and/or online assignments. They should also complete online coursework by the stated due dates. This work will not negatively affect scholars' grade averages but may be used to help scholars meet promotion requirements.

## **Additional Assistance**

If parents need additional assistance with picking up or accessing the *Learning-At-Home* coursework or assignments, please contact us at [covid19@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:covid19@jackson.k12.ms.us).

Families are encouraged to frequently visit the District's [Coronavirus Response Page \(www.jackson.k12.ms.us/CoronavirusResponse\)](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us/CoronavirusResponse) for the most current updates, responses, meals and services, resources, and FAQs.

As always, we will continue to communicate with our JPS families as we work as a community to overcome the challenges presented by this crisis. Remember to stay safe, wash hands frequently and practice social distancing.

Sincerely,

Assistant Superintendents, Jackson Public Schools