

March 18, 2020

MBS Family,

We hope that you all are staying safe and healthy as the impact of COVID-19 continues to broaden. This is an incredibly challenging time with ever-changing circumstances.

As you know, tomorrow marks the beginning of a two-and-a-half week statewide school closure. All public schools in Alabama will shut down from Thursday, March 19, through Friday, April 3, as a result of Gov. Kay Ivey's state of emergency declaration last week.

We are tentatively scheduled to reopen Monday, April 6, but that could change based on the progression of COVID-19. Tomorrow, State Superintendent Dr. Eric Mackey and his 11-member education task force will meet to discuss next steps for public schools after April 6. The task force is set to make a recommendation to Ivey by March 30.

As information becomes available, Mountain Brook Schools will notify you promptly so that you can begin to plan for your family. Please know that our staff is continuing to polish our E-Learning practices in preparation for a potential transition from on-campus instruction. In fact, many of our teachers are in communication with students and have posted optional learning opportunities online for them.

We also are organizing our Chromebook supply at the four elementary schools. Stay tuned for more information regarding a date and time for distribution.

On another note, the school system's team of counselors has compiled a list of resources you can consult when determining how to speak with your student about COVID-19. You can view that list [here](#). We also have posted resources on our website regarding steps you can take to [slow the spread](#) of the virus and guidance for [social distancing](#).

Lastly, we want to make sure you know about the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency's joint information center. You can text "InfoJeffco" to 888-777 to receive COVID-19 updates on your phone. It's a great mechanism to keep you informed.

We'll be in touch soon.

Sincerely,

Dicky Barlow

Superintendent
Mountain Brook Schools