

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

DME Bulletin – COVID-19

March 23, 2020

On Friday, March 20, Mayor Muriel Bowser [announced](#) that she extended the District of Columbia Government's modified operating status until April 27, including the adjusted DC Government operating posture and distance learning at the District's public schools. The Mayor also extended the prohibition on mass gatherings during a public health emergency until April 25, 2020.

COMMUNITY NOTIFICATIONS RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Our public schools are viewed as trusted messengers and we fully appreciate the desire by school leaders to communicate openly with your communities. Given the unique and evolving nature of this public health emergency, DME and DC Health are providing additional guidance to school leaders on the need to provide notification to your school communities of potential exposure and the health status of community members. Please see the enclosed guidance document for additional information.

DISTANCE LEARNING STARTS TUESDAY, MARCH 24

The extension of school closures comes with the expectation teaching and learning will continue. Distance learning is new for many of our schools. We are working to address challenges where they exist and further develop engagement and submission mechanisms to increase the rigor and effectiveness of online learning.

DCPS has made its Instructional Continuity Plan available to everyone with no login necessary. Visit bit.ly/DCPS_ICP to view these resources for students, families and educators.

DC PCSB has also provided a wealth of distance learning resources available [HERE](#).

OSSE UPDATES

School Enrollment deadlines: My School DC plans to release lottery results to LEAs on March 26, and families on March 27, as previously planned and advertised. Typically, families enrolling into a matched school through the My School DC Lottery system have an initial enrollment deadline of May 1. Under this policy, OSSE is extending that deadline to one month after the re-opening of DCPS schools during the 2019-20 school year, or Monday, June 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., whichever is earlier, and extending flexibility for a remote enrollment process. **Please see the policy document outlining enrollment and residency requirements, and a sample enrollment offer letter as an optional tool attached.**

Update on health forms for the 2020-21 school year: Given the changes to the enrollment process noted above, OSSE will now require that students and families provide Universal Health Certificates and Oral Health Assessments at the start of the 2020-21 school year, instead of at the time of enrollment. As a reminder, all students must be up to date on their immunizations in order to attend school.

MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

Meal sites for all students - Beginning Wednesday, March 25, the District will add 10 meal sites for all students, bringing the total meal sites at DCPS buildings to 29 across the District. These sites serve lunch



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education

John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

and a shelf-stable breakfast for all residents under the age of 18 Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. A full list of meal sites, including public charter school locations can be found [HERE](#).

DC Parks and Recreation facilities - All DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) facilities, including playgrounds, parks, and athletic fields, will be closed to the public.

For more information on the District's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.