

Message from Thomas W. Giard III, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents and Families,

I hope everyone is taking all the necessary precautions to remain healthy during this time. As I said last week, the situation continues to evolve and change as new information becomes available. Per order of the Governor yesterday, all schools in Connecticut are closed minimally until March 31, 2020. Statewide conference calls continue almost daily with multiple state and federal agencies participating. You can find archived WPS district updates throughout the school closure at:

[https://www.waterfordschools.org/our-district/superintendent/district-updates_covid19](https://www.waterfordschools.org/our-district/superintendent/district-updates-covid19)

After Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 2:00 PM buildings will be completely closed to the public. CLMS and WHS offices will remain open for phone calls and email communication only. We are asking you to not visit school offices during the closure. Elementary school offices will be closed after Tuesday, March 17, 2020 but administration will be monitoring their emails and voicemails. Elementary parents, and any other parent, who need immediate attention may contact central office at any time. You can reach central office at 860-444-5801. The above is subject to change if community health conditions change. We will keep you updated.

Town Hall has been closed to the public indefinitely. You can reach Central Office at 860-444-5801.

Meal Assistance for Families During Closure

Starting on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the Waterford Public Schools will be serving FREE (for students and household siblings) Grab & Go meals for Breakfast and Lunch three days a week during school closure. Breakfast and lunch may be picked up from 9AM-11AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Monday and Wednesday pickup will contain 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches per student; Friday pickup will contain 1 breakfast and 1 lunch per student.

WHO can get meals?

Meals are free for **all** students 18 years of age or younger and their household siblings. The student must be present for pick up and accompanied by an adult. Adults may purchase a breakfast for \$3.00 and/or a lunch for \$4.00 (cash only).

WHAT will be served?

Grab-n-go meals will vary each day.

Breakfast will include assorted cereals, yogurt, muffins, fruit or juice, and milk.

Lunch will include assorted deli sandwiches, fruit, veggies, milk.

WHEN will meals be served?

Starting on Wednesday, 3/18. Breakfast and lunch may be picked up from 9AM-11AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Monday and Wednesday pickup will contain 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches per student; Friday pickup will contain 1 breakfast and 1 lunch per student.

WHERE will meals be served?

Clark Lane Middle School

105 Clark Lane

Side cafeteria entrance – look for signage.

HOW?

There will be signs at CLMS directing you to drive your car to the pick-up area. It will be curbside pickup. Meals will be delivered to your car. We ask that you do not exit your vehicle.

- Upon pickup of your meals, you may preorder for your next pickup (not required)
- Any questions, please call the School Dining and Nutrition Services Department at 860-444-5862.

Obtaining Supplemental Learning Activities

Every teacher webpage has electronic copies of the supplemental learning activities, as well as other online resources of other educational activities your child can do during this period of closure. Teacher webpages can be accessed through the staff directory on the website at https://www.waterfordschools.org/staff_directory. Search for the teacher's name then click on the globe icon to access the teacher webpage. Hard copies of supplemental learning activities are also available in each main office. Each school will be open to the public Monday, March 16, 2020 from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM and Tuesday, March 17, 2020 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Please check in at the main office when you arrive. If you are having difficulty locating the online resources for your children, please call or email building principals directly and they will assist you.

After Tuesday, when schools are closed to the public, all supplemental learning activities will be available at CLMS during the same window of time as meal pick-up: 9AM-11AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You will not need to leave your vehicle. Materials will be delivered to you curbside.

Obtaining a Chromebook for Home Use

For families who may not have a technology device at home to maintain a continuity of learning for their child, the district has set up a process for families with students in Grade 2-12 to “check out” a district Chromebook for home use during this time of school closure. The Chromebook may be picked up at Clark Lane Middle School from 9AM-11AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You will not need to leave your vehicle. Chromebooks will be delivered to you curbside. Chromebooks will not have the filtering they would have while in school buildings. Filtering on the device will be dependent on your home network settings. If you have a technical problem operating the Chromebook, you can reach the WPS IT Department at 860-625-5688 between 8:00AM and 4:00PM.

Logging in to your Chromebook:

Students in 2nd grade and above will be able to login to Chromebooks. The login is the student's year of graduation followed by their last name then 1st initial follow by @my.waterfordschools.org. For instance, a 3rd grade student named Robert Smith would login as 29smithr@my.waterfordschools.org

Free Internet to Qualifying Families

Many internet providers are now offering free internet to qualified families in an effort to support school districts and families in maintaining engagement in learning. Comcast's online application for free internet can be found here: <https://www.internetessentials.com/Apply>

AT&T and Charter Communications also announced free public Wi-Fi for 60 days, with Charter offering free broadband for households with students through college age who don't already have a subscription.