



IGNITING LIMITLESS POTENTIAL

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE



March 12, 2020 - Board Work Session
Dr. Pascal Mubenga, Superintendent

AGENDA

Overview

District Response

Durham County Public Health
Partnership

Next Steps & Recommendations

Questions & Discussion



CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE INFORMATION



PLAN

DPS already has a pandemic plan in place

COLLABORATE

DPS is working closely with DCDPH

CONVENE

DPS has created a Coronavirus Task Force

PREVENTION

Follow NCHHS and CDC guidelines



CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Dr. Pascal Mubenga, Superintendent
- Dr. Nakia Hardy, Deputy Superintendent
- Julius Monk, Chief Operating Officer
- Chip Sudderth, Chief Communications Officer
- Tanya Giovanni, Chief of Staff
- Paul LeSieur, Chief Finance Officer
- Arasi Adkins, Assistant Superintendent-Human Resources



CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Tina Ingram, Executive Director of Safety and Security
- Jenine Stevenson, Emergency Management Specialist
- Matthew Grady, DPS Lead Nurse
- Travis T. Anderson, Executive Director of Facilities Services
- Kenneth Barnes, Executive Director of Auxiliary Services
- Pablo Friedmann, Director, Multilingual Resource Center
- David Hackney, Director of Athletics, Health & Physical Education, and Drivers Education

PLAN COMPONENTS

- Custodial Services
- Transportation Services
- Child Nutrition Services
- Academic Learning
- Information Technology
- Employee Services





ATTENDANCE AND EXAM POLICY

- Parents of students who are absent due to illness and/or may be at risk, according to CDC guidelines, should provide a written note to excuse the absence(s).
- Staff recommend waiving the attendance component of Policy 3410-Testing & Assessment Program, Section B-Exam Exemptions. Students with an A or B will be able to exempt an exam. (Action Required)



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-ATHLETICS

- NCHSAA Board of Directors have suspended interscholastic athletics beginning at 11:59pm on Friday March 13, 2020 through Monday, April 6, 2020. This includes all workouts, skill development, practices, and contests.
- The NCHSAA Board of Directors will assess this situation regularly over the next few weeks.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-FIELD TRIPS

- Canceling all student field trips (out-of-state travel)
- Canceling all in-state and overnight student field trips
- Canceling school events and in-district field trips that would be considered a large gathering (exceeding 100 per Governor Cooper's March 12 announcement)



CORONAVIRUS AND EMPLOYEES

- All employees, especially those at higher risk as it relates to COVID-19 (defined by NCHHS as older adults [65+] or those with underlying health conditions like heart or lung disease, diabetes, or a weakened immune system) should consider their safety first. Employees should use available leave if they will not be at work.

- HR is working with supervisors and providing direction to work with employees. We will provide updates about the feasibility of working from home as quickly as possible as the need arises.





WORKING FROM HOME

- **Equitable practices** - we are creating strategies that are equitable for employees, but also account for the work needed to be done, and available resources.
- **Flexibility** - we will be as flexible as possible to help limit the transmission or spread of illness. We are looking into options for even non-exempt employees who typically aren't eligible to work from home. Different rules may apply in emergency situations.
- **Resources** - we are looking into a check-out system for laptops for employees (who do not currently have one), and other technology needs in order to work from home.





SICK EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE EXHAUSTED LEAVE

- As the CDC and NCHHS recommends, employees who are sick should stay home, and use available leave. Typical procedures related to excessive absences and unpaid leave will likely be different from non-emergency times.
- We are also looking into the possibility of a voluntary shared leave pool in order to assist employee groups whose work is directly tied to student attendance and/or employees who might suffer extreme financial hardship from unpaid leave time.





PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

We want to gain a better understanding of staff travel, in order to better inform our decisions. We are asking all employees to complete an electronic form (sent last night to all employees) if they have travelled out-of-state or out-of-country since February 1, 2020 or have plans to travel out-of-state or out-of-country.





FACILITY RENTALS

As of today, March 12, 2020, at 5pm:

- The last day for all facility rentals will be Thursday, March 12, 2020.
- DPS will communicate with renters on Friday.
- Until further notice, we are not accepting any new facility rentals.

COMMUNICATION

- Internal DPS staff continue to communicate and collaborate with Durham County Department of Public Health staff
- Continue to provide updates to staff as they become available
- Regular email and robo-call communication to DPS staff and families
- Regular updates to [DPS Coronavirus webpage](#)





Questions & Discussion