



Carroll County Public Schools
Office of the Superintendent

December 4, 2020

Good morning everyone,

Yesterday myself and other superintendents across the Mt. Rogers Health District met with their Director, Dr. Karen Shelton, to discuss the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases across the Mt. Rogers Health district. Yesterday there were 242 confirmed cases of the virus across the Mt. Rogers Health district as opposed to 120 cases the day before. Due to this astronomical rise and their limited ability to do full contact tracing, Dr. Shelton has recommended that all school divisions within the health district switch to virtual instruction for the remainder of the semester.

At a called emergency meeting of the Carroll County School Board at 9:00 this morning it was unanimously decided that Carroll County Public Schools would go completely virtual starting Wednesday, December 9, 2020. CCPSD will finish out this semester with distance learning and continue the second semester of 2021 with distance learning until January 15, 2021 when the school board will reevaluate the data. In conjunction with the move to distance learning all athletics and extracurricular activities will be delayed until January 4, 2021 when this decision will be reevaluated as well.

We are allowing students to attend next Monday and Tuesday to provide parents time to arrange for childcare and teachers and staff to make plans for the continuation of instruction. Planning for SOL testing and exams at the middle and secondary level will also be finalized. Although we are extremely disappointed to have to make this decision, it has been highly anticipated that this might happen after the Thanksgiving break. We are however, proud of the fact that we have been able to provide in-person instruction for 16 of the 18 scheduled weeks of the first semester. As always the health and safety of our students and staff are our top priority and will remain so when making decisions in regards to school attendance. We depend on the recommendations of our health officials as well when making these decisions and appreciate their hard work and research before arriving at these recommendations.

More information about the specifics of our division schedule and plans are listed below. Detailed information including school specifics will be forthcoming next week. The [press release provided by the Mt. Rogers Health District](#) is also included.

Please take care of yourself and continue to follow all recommended safety protocols from the Virginia Department of Health.

God Bless,

Mark Burnette

The following plan will go into effect Wednesday, December 9, 2020 as CCPSD shifts

to 100% Distance Learning.

Schedule

Students will continue to attend school virtually from Wednesday, December 9th through Friday, December 18th for this semester and through January 15th for the beginning of second semester. Specific details include:

- For students with internet access, instruction will be delivered through Google Classroom using a combination of live virtual instruction, pre-recorded virtual instruction, phone calls, and independent assignment completion and submission.
- Parents of students without internet access should contact the school to arrange necessary accommodations for instruction. This can be accomplished through the distribution of flash drives with preloaded instructional materials that can be completed and submitted to the school or packets as a last resort.
- Each school will distribute additional information regarding their specific plan for the continuation of instruction on Monday, December 7th. This additional information will be sent home with your child. If students are unable to meet the established expectations the parent/guardian should contact the school to develop a plan.

Attendance

To be counted present in each class, students must:

- Attend live meets/check ins/ and complete work, or
- If no internet access, complete all assigned work and maintain frequent communication with all teachers, or
- If unable to meet each day's live expectations, fully follow the plan developed with the school to meet individual needs.

Grading

New instruction will continue to be delivered. Assignments will be made, end of semester tests and exams will be given, and grades will be taken through the end of the semester. Students need to follow all due dates.

Extracurricular Activities

CCPSD has delayed the start of all athletic and extracurricular activities until January 4, 2021 when our community COVID 19 cases and exposures will be re-evaluated. No practices, scrimmages or games may occur during this time period.

Meals

Beginning on Thursday, December 10th, Carroll County Public Schools will deliver food to children ages 0 to 18 using our bus routes. Food delivery will occur December 10th thru December 18th and again January 5th thru

January 15th and will include both breakfast and lunch meals for students. These meals will be offered FREE of charge to ALL students and students will pick up breakfast and lunch meals at the same time. Students who wish to take advantage of this opportunity would meet their bus at their designated bus stop. Delivery times will be shared with parents early next week so they may plan.

Carroll County Schools will also provide free bagged meals for children ages 2 to 18 at each school from 12 noon to 1 p.m. This will be a drive-thru service using the parent pick up lines for families who would like to participate. You will be able to pick up lunch for that day along with a bagged breakfast for the next morning.

On Tuesday, December 8th students will be sent home with a free bagged meal (breakfast and lunch) to cover their meals for Wednesday.

Cavaliers Connected students will continue to pick up their pre-ordered meals on Wednesday, December 9th and 16th. Beginning in January 2021 these families will be incorporated into the bus delivery system.

Technical Support

The technical support hotline will be staffed Monday -Thursday from 9:00 to 3:00 and 5:00 to 7:00. On Friday, the hours are 9:00 to 3:00. Students, family members, and employees can speak with a technology support representative during these hours by calling 276-730-2045.

SOL Testing Update

We will still be required to bring certain groups of students into the building for SOL tests prior to December 18th. We are required to administer many of these tests by federal law and if taken, must be taken in the building under secure testing conditions. We are working to create a schedule to administer these SOL tests beginning next week. We will offer transportation to students who will need it in order to come to the building to take an SOL test. More information regarding this schedule will be made available Monday, December 7th.

Healthcare Needs

Please contact your school nurse for any of your child's healthcare needs, such as referrals, appointments, and nursing advice.