

Frequently Asked Questions – Parents and Community

Updated April 28, 2020

Frequently Asked Questions from staff are being answered in the BCPS News Hub, which staff may access from the intranet under Publications.

Submit Questions: [Staff \(login\)](#) [Parents and Community Members](#)

Extended Closure

1. How long will school buildings continued to be closed?

Under current orders from the state superintendent of schools, school buildings will remain closed until Friday, May 15.

Computer Access

1. Can my child get access to a school computer?

Students in Grades 6-12 were instructed to take their computers home on March 13. Students in Grades 3 through 5 and students in Grades 6 – 12 who do not have a computer may request one to be mailed to their home. Please contact your school administration if you need assistance.

2. My computer is still at school. Can I go there and get it?

Computers left at middle and high schools are not available at this time.

3. What do I do if we don't have internet at home?

Several vendors are offering free internet access during this closure including [Xfinity's temporary offer](#) for those eligible.

Curriculum Access

1. How are students with computers continuing to learn?

Students with computers in Grades 3 – 5 and students in middle school and high school are accessing learning through Schoology. Additionally, students are receiving continuous learning through virtually meetings with teachers, completing assignments, receiving feedback during “office hours,” and submitting assignments for grades.

2. How are students without computers receiving instruction?

Students without computers may download work from the [Student Learning Resources webpage](#). Students may request a packet be mailed to their home. Please contact your school administration for assistance.

Grading, Reporting, and Testing

1. Will the Student Learning Resources that covered March 16 to April 3 be graded?

The work assigned during that time was supplemental and will not be graded because it was designed to be practice, reinforcement, and enrichment.

2. How are students turning in work to be graded?

Students using Schoology are turning in work using Schoology. Since continuous learning after March 27 involves new learning, graded assignments for students in Grades 3-12 are being submitted through Schoology. Students completing paper packets will turn in the work when we return to school at a later date to be determined. We are exploring digital ways for these students to turn in assignments.

3. How will work be graded?

Teachers will provide feedback. We are working on grading procedures and marking period grades for quarter 3 and quarter 4 with the Maryland State Department of Education.

4. Will students still be able to complete SAT and AP testing?

The [College Board](#) is scheduling make up dates and alternative access for these tests. AP tests will be delivered online.

Spring Break, Prom and Graduation

1. What happened to spring break?

We began implementing our Continuity of Learning Plan as of April 6, but students and staff recognized two holidays: Friday, April 10 (Good Friday) and Monday, April 13 (Easter Monday).

2. Will prom still occur?

The Governor's executive order prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people. If the executive order is still in effect at the time of the prom, the prom will be cancelled.

3. Will graduation still occur?

The Governor's executive order prohibits gatherings of more than 10 people. If the executive order is still in effect at the time of the graduation, the graduation will be cancelled. We are hoping to postpone our graduations until it is safe to have large gatherings – TBD.

Requesting Transcripts for Scholarships

1. How do I request the transcripts I need when applying for scholarships?

If students need to obtain their school transcripts, they should contact their school counselors (via email) to request that a transcript be uploaded into the document section of Naviance.

Food Distribution

1. Because of my work, I am unable to come to the food distribution site during the scheduled time or with my child. Are any exceptions available?

For additional assistance, please call 211 or visit [211, Baltimore County Government Food Resources](#), or [Baltimore County Food Pickup Locations](#).

2. I am disabled and unable to bring my child to the site and it is too far to walk. Are any other resources available?

For additional assistance, please call 211 or visit [211, Baltimore County Government Food Resources](#), or [Baltimore County Food Pickup Locations](#). Lyft and Uber are on call to assist through 211.

Special Education Services

1. How are students continuing to receive special education services?

Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) are continuing to receive a comparable service to those in general education. Special Education services and related services are being provided through distance learning. Special educators are providing accommodations or modifications to materials created by general educators, as they do each school day. Special educators and related service providers are continuing to create specially designed instruction based on the student's individual needs.

Case management services are continuing through phone calls or video conferencing with families. IEP teams may also continue using telephone or video conferencing.

Special educators and related services providers are required to document services during the extended closure.

BCPS school staff can hold IEP teams during the extended closure to discuss comparable services if families are concerned about the delivery of specially designed instruction during the extended closure. IEP teams will be recommended to hold meetings once schools re-open to discuss the educational impact on the student during the extended closure and determine if compensatory services will be owed.