

Dear BASD Families,

Tomorrow we reconvene virtual learning! Our teachers look forward to seeing students back in their Google Classroom on Monday!

During Spring Break, district leaders continued to plan for an extended school closure. As you are likely aware, Wisconsin has issued a **stay-at-home order through April 24**. This extends our school closure through at least that date, though the Governor has said that schools will be closed indefinitely.

Before the break, we gathered some feedback from teachers and families around grading. To alleviate stress, the school board adjusted the academic calendar so that the **3rd quarter** ended March 13 (the last day of face-to-face instruction). Grades will be posted in Skyward starting April 4.

The **4th quarter** will be from March 16 – June 5 (virtual learning). We anticipate the 4th quarter to be “pass / no pass,” as this decision seemed best for kids and families who need flexibility right now. There are some nuances around grades being pass / no pass that we still need to work through and will be communicated through building principals when available.

Starting on March 30, BASD will activate the ability for teachers and students to meet through Google Meets. **Video-conferencing** offers a convenient way to connect “face-to-face” but should be used with caution. Using video conferencing will be optional and students/families should only use it if they are comfortable having a video camera in their home. The use of video-conferencing requires both the teacher and student to maintain a heightened standard regarding student privacy. The district is providing guidelines for teachers on using this tool. Assignments will continue to be posted on Google Classroom.

Many teachers copied and sent home materials assuming schools would be closed through April 3. Now, they need to assemble and **distribute materials** through April 24. We have been working through the best and healthiest way, for staff to distribute classwork on an as-needed basis. Right now, we’re determining how many classes need to distribute materials.

[Lunch \(and breakfast for the next day\)](#) will continue to be offered at four locations on Monday-Friday from 12 noon – 12:30 pm. This is available to any child age 18 or younger. Children no longer need to be present with the adult to pick up the meal.

We also need to remind the community that BASD **buildings and grounds are closed**. With no staff present, it is safer for the public to not use district outdoor facilities during the school closure. We still encourage families to get outside and exercise.

During the closure, many resources have been made available to families that were not possible before:

- The Wisconsin DNR is waiving entrance fees for all state parks, forests, and trails, which remain open.
- PBS Wisconsin will offer educational programming for K-12 <https://wisconsin.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/emergency-closings-collection/>
- Check out the district’s library resources: https://burlingtonsd.follettdestiny.com/common/welcome.jsp?context=saas54_4811465

We will continue to stay positive and resourceful during this time. Please continue to take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Yours in Education,
Dr. Stephen Plank, Superintendent