

Marathon Central School District
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
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Mrs. Rebecca Stone
Superintendent

Mrs. Heather Euson
District Clerk

April 1, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We have been working around the clock since last Friday when Governor Cuomo announced the extension of our school closure through April 15, 2020 to better understand and clarify what that means for our students and our scheduled April Break.

Through inquiry with the Governor's Office and the New York State Education Department, the Deputy Secretary for Education to Governor Cuomo, has advised that ***school districts are expected to provide continuity of learning*** (i.e., continued instruction) and distribution of meals during the closure ***through April 15, 2020, including during what was previously designated as our Board of Education approved April Break (April 6, 2020 to April 10, 2020) as outlined in the 2019-2020 school calendar.***

While this change may not be popular for students who were hoping to take advantage of a scheduled break from learning, the Governor's Office believes consistency for our school children with regard to instruction and food is a priority and should continue unabated.

We know everyone has been working diligently for the continued care of our students. We also know that you may be dealing with collective anxiety and fear and, in most cases, were looking forward to some uninterrupted time together, even if unable to get away due to the state of emergency.

To align with the Governor's directive and to provide learning in a way that best meets our student's needs, Marathon CSD will be doing the following:

Continuation of Instruction

- During the week of April 6th-April 10th, students will complete and turn in all back assignments for 3rd quarter. All work will need to be turned in by April 13th to be included into the 3rd marking period average. Work can be submitted through April 13th online to your student's teacher, dropped off by April 10th at the high school, or returned to school by bus on April 9th during the food delivery drop. For bus pick up, place any assignments that need to be returned in a plastic bag and place in the cooler or hang on the door when no cooler is available. If a bus does not normally stop at your house, call the main office (HS 849-3251 or ES – 849-3282) to have a bus stop for pick up.

- Students will have district wide assignments to do over break.
 - Read one new book that is of interest to the student and report back on it. Students can read a book from their shelf, one on line from the library or could even utilize Audible which can read stories to them for free. One book can be read to multiple younger children. Books should be age appropriate. Students will create a report about the book and what they took away from it using any format they wish. They could write a report, make a song, create a poem, create a rap, etc. This will be turned into their classroom teacher (UPK-6th) or their English teacher during the week of April 13th.
 - Students will practice their civic duty by helping to complete the 2020 census with their parents. If this has already been done, review with your student what was done to complete the census. An email or note to the student's classroom teacher or social studies teacher will serve as evidence of completion. Students that encourage others who are not part of our school district to complete the census could gain extra credit. It is important that every Marathon resident is counted. This is what will help fund our schools and community activities in the future.
 - Optional: Students and parents can send in photos, poems, articles, etc. about their time at home during the pandemic. These items will be submitted to the Torchlight for a special commemorative paper. All submissions should be sent to Ms. Miller at millert@marathonschools.org.
 - Optional: Families can to create a journal or a photo gallery of their time during the pandemic. This is a noteworthy time of our student's life. It would be exceptional if they were able to look back on it in 20 years to remind themselves of what it was like.

Continuation of Food Deliveries

- Meal delivery and pick up dates will change **next week ONLY**. Delivery and pick up days will be Monday and Thursday for the week of April 6th. The Monday's delivery/pick up will contain three days of breakfast and lunch for all children under the age of 18 for whom arrangements have been made. The Thursday delivery/pick up will include breakfast and lunch for four days for each child.
- If you are currently receiving or picking up meals, you will continue to receive meals. To add children to the delivery or pick up list, call you school's main office no later than 10 AM the day food is available.
- When a delivery arrives we are asking that safe social distancing is practiced. Delivery personnel will place meals outside the entrance to the home or in the provided cooler. We ask that the family waits until the delivery personnel has returned to the bus before retrieving delivery.

We are in uncharted territory trying to do what is best during this health crisis. We will all continue to work together to find our way forward. Thank you again for supporting us during this challenging time.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Stone
Superintendent of Schools