



John F. Kennedy High School

School Closure FAQ for

Students & Families

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This is a living document and will be continuously updated as information changes. The following translations have been updated as of Friday, March 13th at 9:30 AM.

[¿Necesitas esto traducido?](#)

[Bạn có cần bản dịch này không?](#)

Letter from Superintendent Susana Cordova

Dear Team DPS,

Today we have made the difficult decision to move to an extended spring break for all DPS schools. It is never easy to make a call like this, but we did so on the advice of medical experts to ensure that we are supporting the health and well-being of all of our students, staff and families. This extended spring break for students will start Monday, March 16, and continue through Monday, April 6. This decision was made after detailed and thorough discussions with our Board of Education, the City of Denver, Denver Department of Public Health, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and other organizations around the city and state in response to growing concerns about coronavirus (COVID-19).

Our schools will be on a regular schedule tomorrow, Friday, March 13, and our school leaders and teams will use the day to transition to the extended spring break. We are asking our schools to help families get ready for the extended spring break that starts on Monday, March 16. All before- and afterschool care, including Discovery Link, will be open tomorrow and then will close from March 16 through April 3. Please note, those schools that are already closed because of a related confirmed case of a parent will remain closed March 13-April 3.

All school buildings will be open on Monday and Tuesday of next week. These days aren't intended for instruction but instead as additional time to transition to the extended spring break and give families more time to come into school buildings and get what they need for the extra time off. We are asking principals to make sure they have adequate staffing in our schools on Monday and Tuesday to help families, similar to a delayed start.

School buildings will then be closed Wednesday, March 18, through April 3. During that time, essential personnel will do the important disinfecting that needs to be done to ensure the building is ready for staff to return April 6, and students to return April 7.

We will provide additional guidance tomorrow for non-school staff. We will also be providing guidance tomorrow regarding pay and leave questions.

We are still monitoring what this will mean for the school year, including seat days and testing. We are continuing to look into what this will look like moving ahead, and will share that information as it is available.

We will share more information with all team members as soon as possible.

As always, thank you for all you do for our children and families. And thank you, especially, for the strength and commitment you've shown during this past week.

Sincerely,
Susana

Athletics

All spring sports and activities including practices will be suspended until April 6th to address concerns surrounding the on-going decisions with COVID-19 pandemic.

Link: <https://chsaanow.com/2020-03-12/spring-sports-and-activities-suspended-until-april-6/>

Practices:

- Absolutely no contact between coach and players until April 6. This means no open gyms, no private coaching, no off-campus coaching.
- Student-Athletes may find opportunities to workout *independently* in order to maintain their stamina and preparedness for the start of the season on April 6th.
- Students are discouraged from working in groups larger than 10 per CDC's recommendation for social distancing.
- Coaches may provide pre-planned workout documents for student-athletes to follow.

Academics:

- Student-athletes should take this window as an opportunity to makeup work that has impacted eligibility.
- Teachers may refuse to provide the opportunity for work that is two-weeks past due.
- All students have the opportunity to earn up-to **12 attendance** points for completion of pre-assigned work documents. See the [Instructional Materials & Work Over Break](#) section for more details

Competitions:

- All competitions between March 13th & April 6th have been cancelled.
- Competition schedules will continue as planned from April 6th onward.

Activities

All activities will be canceled during the duration of the extended Spring Break which ends on April 7th. The John F. Kennedy High School website will be updated to reflect the cancelation of all school events during this period of time.

How does this affect PSAT/SAT/CMAS and other testing Mid-April?

Currently, the following assessments are scheduled for this coming April. Unfortunately, at this time we are still waiting for further direction from the district central office, the State and CollegeBoard on how assessments/testing will be impacted. More information to come as we receive updates.

April Assessments:

- CLEP
- Accuplacer 11th and 12th grades
- IB Visual Arts & Film Exams
- IB HOA Final Exam 11th and 12th grades
- PSAT
- SAT
- CMAS Science
- Co-Alt (LA, Math, Science)
- World Languages Post Test

Free Meals During Extended Spring Break

DPS will offer free meals to ALL students in need through April 7, including breakfast and lunch.

Breakfast - 8am - 9am

Lunch - Noon - 1pm

Breakfast and lunch will be provided at the following locations:

- Abraham Lincoln High School
 - 2285 S Federal Blvd, Denver, CO 80219
- Place Bridge, Shoemaker Elementary
 - 7125 Cherry Creek N Dr, Denver, CO 80224
- North High School
 - 2960 Speer Blvd, Denver, CO 80211
- Montbello High School
 - 5000 Crown Blvd, Denver, CO 80239
- Manual High School
 - 1700 E 28th Ave, Denver, CO 80205
- DCIS Baker
 - 574 6th Ave, Denver, CO 80204

The district will not offer busing to and from the meals in order to avoid grouping children.

Instructional Materials & Work Over Break

In order to provide our students with access to the academic practice that is imperative to their success, we will provide 5 days worth of academic plans and resources for students to independently complete.

Due to this being an "extension of spring break," this work will not be reflected in the gradebook; however, students will be provided attendance points completing and submitting all of their work upon returning to school on April 7th.

If you receive special services, your families will be communicated with directly by the district.

Students who have planned to make up their attendance points through tutoring or Saturday school will lose the potential of 12% as a result of school being closed. If you complete the school work that is sent home today (3/13) in its entirety and for all of your courses, you will earn all those 12 attendance points.

We will also have work pick up stations for students set up on Monday and Tuesday. You will be able to pick up their work, personal items, medicine or medical supplies from the nurse, etc. from 7:30 - 2:30 on Monday 3/16/20 and 3/17/20.

Main Lobby	English	Science	Arts & PE	CTE	Cafe
	Math	Social Studies	World Languages		

Information & Resources for Families

- **Student Safety Resources While School is on Break**

- **Parents/Guardians:** If you become aware a child is experiencing suicidal thoughts or making threatening statements DURING BREAK and AFTER HOURS:
 - 1) Contact DPD Non-emergency line at 720-913-2000 to request a welfare check and/or to report the threat/concern.
 - 2) When risk is imminent, please call 911.
 - 3) You may make an anonymous Safe2Tell report using the website (safe2tell.org), call the hotline (1-877-542-7233) or download/use their app.
- **Students:** For any concerns you may have about yourself or a friend, reach out to a trusted adult or contact Safe2Tell (safe2tell.org). You may also contact Colorado Crisis Services at 1-844-493-TALK (8255) or Text TALK to 38255

- **Southwest Denver Resource Guide**

- The purpose of this resource directory is to provide our school community with resources that support academic achievement and social development, by supplying families with the resources that they need to focus on learning.

- LINK TO GUIDE:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UB3Yxrq5Bu5ZujJfyBiU3kMG9vGCzjUX/view?usp=sharing>

- **Homeless Education Network Resources**

- 2019-2020 Homeless Education Network City of Denver Older Adult Resource Directory
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11gVMFniDhlQzChEe6syueYxrbLzjc7wy/view?usp=sharing>
- 2019-2020 Homeless Education Network Cold Weather Care Guide and Energy Outreach of Colorado Information
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TRDw9cvehqS-TwXPF1PVtUXt2Qkdhs0/view?usp=sharing>
- 2019-2020 Homeless Education Network Resource Guide
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KtZiAWpqve-cFY4kBfcsb0l0o_Uwc8n0/view?usp=sharing
- 2019-2020 Homeless Education Network Unaccompanied Older Youth Resource Directory
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14jWXphcT4j1mQWV7eCzkcVqwSi4RVhyw/view?usp=sharing>

- **Denver Public Schools FAQ:**

- <https://www.dpsk12.org/faq-about-the-coronavirus-covid-19-and-dps/>

- **Resources and Media Releases from Colorado Department of Education:**

- <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus>

- **Guidance from the CDC:**

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

- **Concurrent Enrollment:** It is the expectation that you adhere to the syllabus of the course in which you are enrolled, regardless of Denver Public Schools' closure. Reach out to your instructor directly if you have any questions.

- ACC - Arapahoe Community College
 - CE - MAN 226 (Seniors 1 section)

- RRCC - Red Rocks Community College
 - English 121 (Seniors 2 sections)
 - English 122 (Seniors 1 section)
 - Math 122 (Seniors 1 section)
- UCD - University of Colorado Denver
 - ETST 2155
 - English 2030
 - Sociology 1001
- Metro State - Metro State University
 - CE Spanish 2120
 - CE Spanish 3250
- Offsite - College Classes

Additional Questions

Please know that things are constantly changing, so this information is up to date as of the time of this writing.

Why is DPS open on Friday, March 13?

DPS is open because there have not been any confirmed cases of staff or students with COVID-19. This day is meant to wrap up learning and to launch into the extended break.

How long is break?

Break will run from Monday, March 16 through Monday, April 6. Students will return on Tuesday, April 7. This may change based on new information.

What is the one thing I should do over break?

Check your email at least once a day!

Will Saturday School be Offered?

Saturday School will be suspended until further notice.

What happens with testing like PSAT, SAT, Science CMAS. AP Tests? IB Tests?

As of right now, these tests will still be given on their scheduled dates.

Is the grade that I have now, my final grade for the fifth 6-week period?

Grades are not finalized and we will remain in the fifth 6-week grading period through the extended spring break. You may complete work which will be graded and added to this current grading period.

What will happen with the musical?

All school events are cancelled at Kennedy after 3:10pm on Friday, March 13. We will look into rescheduling the musical.

What happens with prom?

At this moment, prom will proceed as scheduled on April 25th. Prom attendance requirements will remain the same and the "extended spring break" days *will not* count as absences.

What happens with graduation?

Graduation will continue as scheduled. Seniors must be diligent in ensuring all graduation requirements are met. The extended spring break means that students will now have fewer days to meet grade, credits, attendance, and community service requirements. Cap and gowns still need to be ordered by Wednesday, March 18th at rmbalfour.com

Will we have to go to school longer?

This is an unknown. DPS is currently working with CDE to determine if this will be necessary.

What will the rest of the school year look like?

Currently, staff will return to work on April 6th and students on April 7th. P/SAT, CMAS, AP, and IB exams will be given at their scheduled times (as of now.) Accuplacer dates may shift in order to prioritize more instructional time.

How can I stay up to date?

Check news sources like 9news and Denver Post for up to date information about COVID-19. In addition, school specific messages will be posted on Schoology and urgent messages sent through Remind. Try to check Schoology every day!

Is there virtual learning that will take place?

Virtual learning will not be required. Teachers may provide students with optional virtual learning experiences that students can choose to engage in, just like it would have been over regular spring break.

What happens with Concurrent Enrollment classes?

DPS central office is working with Concurrent Enrollment partners to determine next steps. It is highly likely that students may still be required to complete these.

What if I need mental health supports?

[Colorado Crisis Services](#) provides 24/7 support via phone and text

What if there is something I need to report related to my or another's safety while we are out of school?

Please continue to make reports to <https://safe2tell.org/> or at 877.542.7233 if you are concerned about safety.

Will the Denver Health Clinic be accessible?

We do not know yet. Assume the entire Kennedy campus will be closed unless you hear otherwise.

What if I need to get something from school that I forget? Will school be open?

School will be open on Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17 from 7:30am - 2:30pm for any student or staff who needs to pick up items. All students and staff must check into the main office for screening.

What should I do for three weeks?

The goal of this time is to have physical, social distancing. As a result please be mindful of meeting up with individuals in person. Community is super important, but we need to be very aware of meeting in large groups and being out in public.

- [Complete the resources your teachers send home in order to earn a 12% boost on your attendance rate](#)
- Build skill and knowledge on Khan Academy
- Create your profile and see how much colleges will give you on Raise.me
- See what opportunities exist on MyColoradoJourney.com
- Listen to podcasts
- Write notes of appreciation and kindness through email, Schoology, text, or on an actual card
- Watch documentaries
- [Read/listen to a book](#)

- Finish that paper you need to write!
- Learn a new language on Duolingo
- Practice your typing skills: <https://www.nitrotype.com/race>
- Exercise
- Spend time outdoors by yourself