



## Closure Update for SJSD Families

April 16, 2020

### DISTANCE LEARNING CONTINUES

*What is expected of my student through the end of the school year?*

**High School and Middle School Students** will continue to learn through digital platforms such as Google Classroom. Two lessons or assignments will be provided each week per course through the close of school on May 15. An additional learning packet will be provided to students at meal distribution on April 27.

**Elementary Students** are encouraged to continue to utilize the online learning resources [posted on the district's website](#). Two additional learning packets will be provided to students. One will be distributed the week of April 27 at meal distribution sites and the second one will be distributed the week of May 11.

**Special Programs:** Special education teachers are making direct contact with families twice a week and will continue to do so. Early childhood special education teachers are collaborating with therapists to reach out to families at least twice weekly about individual needs to help children successfully participate in daily lessons.

**Early Childhood:** All early childhood teachers will continue to provide virtual lessons daily to their classrooms. Some are carrying out interactive virtual lessons and others are sending out links to recorded lessons. The preschool teachers remain available to parents during the timeframe provided by academic services. Printed preschool packets have been created for those without internet access. The packets are available for pick up at Coleman and Carden Park on meal distribution days.

### GRADE LEVEL ADVANCEMENT

*Will my student advance to the next grade level next year? If not, how will we know?*

**High School:** Students will earn credit toward graduation for work completed as [outlined in prior communication](#). **Middle and Elementary School:** All students will be promoted to the next grade level unless they are contacted by the child's principal.

### MEAL DISTRIBUTION FOR SJSD STUDENTS

*Will the meal distribution continue through the end of the year?*

The SJSD will continue meal distribution (breakfast & lunch) for our students through May 15 on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8-10:30 a.m. at the following locations: Benton, Central, Lafayette, Carden Park & Coleman. The items included will vary as we work with our suppliers to purchase food.

### **SJSD END-OF-YEAR EVENTS**

#### ***What will happen with end-of-year events like prom and graduation?***

High school principals shared the cancellation of prom with their learning communities on April 14 via social media and ParentLink. The St. Joseph School District has not made a final decision on the plan for graduation at this time. However, it is unlikely ceremonies will take place in May as originally planned. We know how important graduation is for our seniors and their families and we are working to provide an alternate time frame (before the end of summer) for ceremonies to occur. Please know that a virtual ceremony might be necessary as this situation develops.

### **SJSD SUMMER SCHOOL**

#### ***Will the St. Joseph School District still hold summer school this year?***

The St. Joseph School District has not made a decision yet on summer school. The District is still awaiting guidance from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). We will share updates when the decision is made. At this time, the District plans to offer remote/virtual credit recovery and acceleration classes at the high school level.

### **SJSD TECHNOLOGY DEVICES**

#### ***Will we return student technology devices to the SJSD? If so, when?***

At this time, the St. Joseph School District will collect devices from seniors and those not attending summer school (if summer school continues as scheduled) during the week of May 11 along with the collection of books and other items. Additional details will be provided when available.

### **STUDENT PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

#### ***When can we collect any items my student left at school?***

Students' personal belongings will be available for parent pick up during the week of May 11. Parents will be asked to return library books, textbooks, and technology at that time as well. Parents will also be able to pick up remaining medication/health supplies for students. If anyone needs to pick up health-related items before then, please [email Maria Burnham](#) or call 816-671-4000 during office hours (7:30am-12:00pm M-W-F) to set up a time.

### **STUDENT YEARBOOKS AND SPRING PHOTOS**

#### ***Will we still get yearbooks and spring photos? If so, when?***

**High School and Middle School** principals will communicate with families about yearbooks. Some schools will be delayed due to the closure of yearbook factories. **Elementary School** principals will communicate with families about yearbooks and spring photos. Some elementary schools have decided to wait until fall to distribute yearbooks.

### **SJSD STUDENT FEES**

***Will I be reimbursed for certain fees I paid for student activities and other items?***

Parents/guardians should email their building principals to request reimbursement for school items/events that were canceled due to the school closure. If you are seeking reimbursement related to Nutrition Services, please [contact Brian Tarr via email](#).

### **KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT**

***What is the plan for enrolling incoming kindergarten students?***

Due to the school closure, the annual kindergarten parent meetings were cancelled. The SJSD is working to reschedule these meetings for August. We ask parents of incoming kindergarten students to [complete this form](#) as a first step for us to get to know you and your child. Additional enrollment materials will be completed in August.

### **CONTACT THE SJSD**

***I have a question related to the closure that's not in this document, who can help?***

If you have questions and would like to talk to someone from the SJSD, please call during our updated office hours between 7:30am - 12:00pm on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. If you need assistance before then, please email your building principal or the [officeofthesuperintendent@sjsd.k12.mo.us](mailto:officeofthesuperintendent@sjsd.k12.mo.us). You can also send a direct message to the SJSD Facebook page and we will do our best to respond as soon as possible.

### **OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES**

***Are there other resources available to keep us informed?***

St. Joseph School District Information & Updates: [www.sjsd.k12.mo.us](http://www.sjsd.k12.mo.us)  
City of St. Joseph COVID-19 Updates: <https://www.stjoemo.info/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=926>  
St. Joseph Chamber COVID-19 Updates: <https://saintjoseph.com/covid-19/>  
Mosaic Life Care COVID-19 Updates: <https://www.mymlc.com/General/coronavirus-covid-19/>  
MO Department of Health & Senior Services: <https://bit.ly/2XNkpOx>  
MO Department of Elementary & Secondary Education: <https://dese.mo.gov/>  
Home Internet Access via Altice (Suddenlink): <https://www.alticeadvantageinternet.com/>  
Second Harvest Community Food Bank: <https://www.shcfb.org/>