

## Press Release: Covid-19

In response to President Trump's Declaration of National Emergency and Governor Ivey's Emergency Declaration for the State of Alabama due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, effective Thursday, March 19, 2020, all public schools in the State of Alabama, including Pike County Schools, will close facilities until Monday, April 6, 2020. This school closure includes the cancellation of any and all school sanctioned activities, including athletics. Additionally, any student who traveled out of state or internationally during spring break are excused Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week.

Students, parents, and Pike County School staff should review this press release in its entirety for additional information. This release is located at [www.pikecountyschools.com](http://www.pikecountyschools.com)

Decisions concerning whether staff should report to schools or worksites within the school district remain at the discretion of the local education agency. Further guidance for school employees will be forthcoming early next week.

The guidance provided below will continue to be updated as additional information becomes available.

- Students and family members should practice appropriate social distancing practices.
- Pike County Schools will continue to provide meals or other essential services with applicable staff. Additional information concerning Child Nutrition Program services will be forthcoming early next week.
- Students grades 10-12 who are currently dual enrolled with Troy University or Enterprise State Community College whose course work has moved from face to face instruction to online instruction should continue their coursework. Pike County Schools will provide staff and resources to ensure these students make this transition. This support will include technology assistance and tutors. For questions, please contact Mr. Jeff McClure at 334-566-1850.
- Districts may appeal to the State Superintendent of Education for relief from the minimum instructional hour requirements for the days within the Governor's state of emergency declaration. The State Superintendent of Education will be automatically excusing calendar days from March 19 through April 3, 2020.
- Districts should continue to notify the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the State Superintendent of any known employee- or student-confirmed COVID-19 cases in their districts. Parents and School officials should notify my office if they have tested positive or have immediate family members that test positive (Dr. Mark Bazzell, Superintendent – 334-566-1850).
- All school events, such as performances, plays, athletic events, athletic practices, etc., are suspended during this period of school closure.

Dr. Mark Bazzell, Superintendent  
Pike County Schools – Pike County, Alabama