

## **Friday, March 13, 2020: Important School Closing Update**

Dear Princeton Charter School Families and Staff,

Following a discussion this morning that I had with Jeff Grosser, the Princeton Health Officer, and Nick Sutter, Chief of the Princeton Police Department, and various other Princeton department leaders, we have made the decision to continue to keep Princeton Charter School closed on Monday and for the subsequent two weeks, through March 27. During these next two weeks, we will continue to assess the situation as more information emerges.

Our decision was made to ensure the safety of the Princeton Charter community and support the greater Princeton and New Jersey communities in the effort to stem the spread and flatten the curve of the Coronavirus pandemic. This effort works in concert with other school districts and institutions which are similarly closed.

Our teachers will continue to develop effective strategies for home instruction. Several teachers will be trying synchronous instruction today using the Google "Meet" app. We will work to coordinate and "normalize" the modes of instruction to develop a routine approach that will support our students and families to provide continuity of learning.

Several families have enquired about accessing the school in order to get books and other items out of the students' lockers and cubbies. The school will be open today for parents to pick up things from the students' lockers. In order to minimize interaction and maintain social distancing please see the schedule below.

- If you have more than one child, choose either of the times slotted.
- We are asking that parents not bring children to school in the lower grades.
- In addition, we will send one parent to the classroom at a time.
- Although everything has been recently wiped down, all doors will be open to minimize touching surfaces.

If it is not possible for you to come at the allotted time, come when you can.

As mentioned on the calls last evening, we recognize the increased need for devices due to remote instruction. Since you may have more than one child at home, and one or two parents may also be working from home, your need for devices may exceed the number of devices that you have available. If you should find that your family would benefit from an additional device, please email me directly.

We are continuing to work with the various local agencies, and we are in close communication on a daily basis. We will schedule more updates and keep you informed. Thank you for the encouraging emails and support.

Sincerely,  
Larry Patton