



Gloucester County Public Schools
Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center
6099 T.C. Walker Road
Gloucester, Virginia 23061

March 13, 2020

Dear GCPS Families:

As part of our continued communication regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), we would like to provide you with updated resources and our upcoming plan to keep all students, staff and community members safe. We recognize this may change daily and will adjust our strategies and communicate as needed. We will continue to maintain frequent contact and seek guidance from the Virginia Department of Health, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, along with the Virginia Department of Education. There is much to learn about the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). However, we can use the information we do know at this point to navigate our preventative measures. Within the schools, we will continue to encourage proper hand washing, provide enhanced cleaning and enforce the sick day guidelines for all students and staff.

Effective Immediately:

- *All activities and events (including athletic events) which occur outside of our normal instructional hours are suspended indefinitely
- *All field trips are suspended indefinitely
- *All out of state travel and professional development travel outside of Gloucester is suspended indefinitely
- * All schools will be closed to the public after normal instructional hours
- * The T.C. Walker Education Center will be closed to the public daily after 4:30 pm
- *Visitors to our buildings will be restricted to include only our students, staff, and families (parents, guardians, etc.)
- *Schools will continue to operate under normal instructional hours which are as follows:
 - *Middle Schools 7:40 am-2:40 pm
 - *High School 7:45 am-2:45 pm
 - *Elementary Schools 9:00 am-3:50 pm
- *All staff members will report at their regular times

In addition, Monday, March 16, 2020, will be a professional day with no students attending. We will use this day to plan a path forward and to prepare educational resources for students in case we need to close our schools at some point. Additional cleaning will occur at all of our buildings during this time as well.

Below are the most recent travel recommendations from the CDC:

Level 3- China, Iran, South Korea and most of Europe.

Avoid all unnecessary travel.

Please note that if a student travels to South Korea they will be asked to stay home for 14 days following their return. This is following the CDC recommendations.

Level 2- Now seen globally. All travelers should monitor their health and practice social distancing for 14 days following their return.

Level 1- Limited community spread. The CDC recommends practicing usual precautions such as hand washing and social distancing.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to keep all of our students, staff and community members safe and healthy.

Additional Resources Below:

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

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>


<http://www.hampton.k12.va.us/news/2020March/FAQcovid19.pdf>



Dr. Walter R. Clemons, Division Superintendent



Bryan Hartley, Executive Director of Operations



Lisa Jones, Division Nurse Coordinator