

# Wilmington Public Schools

## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: March 19, 2020

***Wilmington Public Schools is enacting a closure of school from March 16 - April 6, 2020 per the Governor Baker's directive.***

***The information detailed in this document is intended to provide guidance for this period. It is important to note that this is a fluid situation and so this document will be regularly updated and modified and it is recommended that you revisit frequently for the latest updates and information.***

***Click on the links below for the questions specific to:***

[General Questions](#)

[Student Learning](#)

[Special Education](#)

[Activities, Events, and Athletics](#)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Student Learning

<b>Q.</b>	<b>Are the days during the three week closure counted as “school days?”</b>
<b>A.</b>	No. These are non-school days and the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) does not consider this closure to count towards time-on-learning. There is no expectation of online learning or for the provision of educational services during this period but DESE is encouraging school systems to provide students with recommendations for student learning activities.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>When is the last day of school in Wilmington?</b>
<b>A.</b>	At the present time, the school year in Wilmington is scheduled to end on June 19, 2020.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Are there expectations around Distance and Online Learning Expectations for</b>

	<b>Students or Teachers?</b>
<b>A.</b>	<p>No. These are non-school days and so there is only an expectation of continuation of learning. This would be similar to completing enrichment activities and other online practice work etc.</p> <p>As per the guidelines of DESE, teachers will not be able to give or provide online work that is graded and/or counts towards course completion as these days in which the school system is closed do not count as <i>online learning</i>.</p> <p>For all students K-12 the Wilmington Public Schools has assembled a lengthy list of <a href="#">enrichment activities</a> that families may wish to have their children participate with. These enrichment activities are not mandatory and are not considered instruction.</p>
<b>Q.</b>	<b>What resources are available for teachers, parents, and students to enrich learning during this period of closure?</b>
<b>A.</b>	<p>We have compiled a lengthy list of activities that can be found online <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Additionally, some teachers may reach out to you with additional resources or activity suggestions.</p>
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Given a three week closure, what happens with the MCAS test for students?</b>
<b>A.</b>	At this time we will not be in school during a portion of the previously scheduled MCAS window. We expect to hear more from DESE in the near future on this topic as a great many schools are in the same position.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>What is going to happen in regards to graduation?</b>
<b>A.</b>	As this situation is ever changing we will have to wait until when school resumes to make decisions based on any directions provided by the state at that time.
<a href="#">Return to FAQs Menu</a>	

## Frequently Asked Questions Special Education

<b>Q.</b>	<b>My child is on an IEP or 504 Plan, and I am concerned about the implications of the closure on my child's educational progress.</b>
<b>A.</b>	Upon the conclusion of the closure, and the re-opening of the district, IEP teams will be available to convene to determine what type of impact the closure had on your child's educational progress, and make individualized team based decisions as needed.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>My child is on an IEP and receives "services only" (i.e. speech/Language counseling etc.). Will my child receive these services during the closure?</b>
<b>A.</b>	A district is not required to provide services to students with disabilities during extended school closures if the district does not provide any educational services to students during this period of time.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Will my child's special education liaison, related service provider, and Coordinator of Special Education be available if I have a question during this two week closure?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes, special education teachers, related services providers, and the Coordinator of Special Education will be available to assist with specific questions as needed.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>I have made a request for an Initial Evaluation on or after March 16th. What should I expect?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Any timelines associated with an initial evaluation request received on March 16th or during the three week closure, will be processed using day one of the timeline as the date the district re-opens. For example, if the district re-opens on April 7th, that would count as day one associated with the timeline for an initial evaluation request.

[Return to FAQs Menu](#)

## Frequently Asked Questions Activities, Events, and Athletics

**Q.** Are there any athletic, club, or activity events happening during this period of closure?

**A.** No. All school-related events are canceled during this period.

**Q.** Are Spring Sports delayed?

**A.** Yes. The [MIAA BOD](#) has decided to delay the start of the 2020 spring season to start on April 27, 2020.

[Return to FAQs Menu](#)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### General Questions

<b>Q.</b>	<b>How will the days of a three week closure count against school days?</b>
<b>A.</b>	The last day Wilmington Public Schools will be in session is June 19, 2020 which is our regularly scheduled 185th day.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Currently the schools are closed through until the end of the day on April 6, 2020. How will we be notified?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Wilmington Public Schools will continue to monitor this fluid situation and will make the best determinations in the best interest of the students and staff. Information will continue to be provided via Blackboard Connect, on our website, through email, and on all major news outlets.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>What will happen to April vacation (April 20-24)?</b>
<b>A.</b>	At this time the April vacation week is scheduled as planned.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Will there be access to any school buildings during the March 16 - April 6, 2020 closure?</b>
<b>A.</b>	At this time all buildings are closed.
<b>Q</b>	<b>How will the District deal with tuitions and service payments paid already?</b>
<b>A.</b>	The District is working with our leadership team to determine the best and most equitable way to handle payment for services rendered and all of these situations will have to await final decisions on the reopening of school.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Will food services be available for students that qualify for free and reduced lunch?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Wilmington Public Schools will be offering prepared bagged breakfasts and lunches at the Wilmington High School between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting on March 20.

[Return to FAQs Menu](#)