



OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS
Community Ed

Early Childhood & Family Education

March 16, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I'm writing to provide you with updates on the Early Childhood & Family Education (EC&FE) program in response to the COVID-19. The information shared below impacts all classes and activities of the EC&FE program, including: ECFE, Preschool, Parent Connection, and PreK classes, Home Visits and Early Childhood Screening appointments.

You will be reimbursed for the cost of all missed classes due to the school closure.

Watch for information coming from your teacher on some optional activities for you to do with your child during the school closure. Updates will be posted on the district website: www.district279.org or on our program Facebook page: facebook.com/osseoEC

The following is from the Osseo Area Schools' website:

School closure March 16-27 (update as of 3/15/20)

The following actions are in response to direction from Governor Tim Walz and the Minnesota Department of Education. Please review all items carefully.

School closing

- **March 16-27, 2020:** Osseo Area Schools (all programs, all grades) will be closed Monday, March 16 through Friday, March 27, 2020, to allow staff to finalize plans for distance learning that would begin, if needed, as early as March 30.
- **Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17:** Starting at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 16, students and/or parents/guardians can come to school during regular school hours to retrieve medications and personal items, including district-issued technology.
- **March 30 and beyond:** We will continue to monitor conditions and adjust plans, as needed. We will communicate our plans for March 30 and beyond as soon as they are finalized.

How can you help?

Please continue to practice healthy habits to limit the spread of disease:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If you cannot wash your hands, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with a minimum 60% alcohol content.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or cough into the inside of the elbow. Dispose of tissues immediately. Wash hands afterwards.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Practice social distancing guidelines and stay home when you are sick.

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A final note

These are challenging times. Please know that we don't yet have answers to every question, and it might take some time to know the full implications of the governor's order to close schools now in order to plan for potential long-term closure. We will continue to consult with and take actions under guidance from state authorities, and we will continue to update you as additional information becomes available.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time of rapidly changing information.

Sincerely,



Sally Nault-Maurer

Osseo Area Schools Early Childhood & Family Education Program

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