

POLYTECH School District COVID-19 School Closure FAQs:

When are schools reopening?

The Governor has closed schools through March 27th. At this time we plan to open schools on Monday, March 30th. However, this is a rapidly changing situation.

If the school closure is extended, we will share information with staff members and POLYTECH families once it becomes available to us.

You may also check local media or the Governors' office media webpage to stay up to date.

<https://governor.delaware.gov/newsroom/>

My student left personal belongings at the school. Can we come get them?

Unfortunately, no. In order to maintain building sanitization we need to strictly limit access to the building. All POLYTECH facilities are currently closed to everyone except essential 12-month employees. We will notify POLYTECH families and staff members through the regular call and email system when the building is cleared for students to enter.

Can staff members get belongings out of our rooms/offices?

Unfortunately, no. In order to maintain building sanitization we need to strictly limit access to the building. All POLYTECH facilities are currently closed to everyone except essential 12-month employees. If you need access to your belongings in the building, please contact the district office and we will make appropriate arrangements with you.

What is the district doing to protect students and staff members?

Governor Carney's school closure for two weeks is designed to allow school districts time to deep clean and sanitize their buildings, while also allowing for social distancing. POLYTECH has conducted deep cleaning and sanitization of our entire facility and all school buses in accordance with CDC recommendations. We are also strictly limiting access to the building and re-sanitizing areas that are used each day.

If we are made aware of any cases or potential cases of the virus among staff members who are in the building, then we will follow Delaware Division of Public Health guidance regarding notification of those who have come in contact with the individual.

My student receives free or reduced meals – where can I access meals for my student?

Home districts are providing meals for students at typical summer feeding locations. The Delaware Department of Education has posted a map of those locations on their website.

<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/4150> Click on locations to see the addresses.

My student is having anxiety about the Coronavirus – what do I do?

The Department of Education has published resources for parents and trusted adults to help students understand the situation and what they can do to protect themselves:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html>

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Is the Wellness Center open?

No, our Wellness Center is not open during the closure. We will notify families if there are any updates for Wellness Center service availability.

However, we are working with the Delaware Guidance to provide telehealth counseling services to students with written consent documents on file during the closure. Delaware Guidance will reach out to families who are enrolled when services become available.

In addition, Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (Crisis) Hotline will remain open. Parents and students can call **1-800-969-HELP (4357)** for immediate mental health emergencies.

When will athletics practices and extracurricular activities start back up?

Given current federal and state social distancing recommendations, we need to suspend athletics and extracurricular activities until further notice. We will notify POLYTECH families and staff members when we receive notification that it is safe for athletics and other extracurricular activities to resume.

Are we allowed to use the fields for outside (non-POLYTECH) club athletic programs?

Unfortunately, no. Given current federal and state social distancing recommendations, we need to suspend all athletic activities on our grounds until further notice.

Will prom be canceled or postponed?

Given this is a fluid situation and ever changing, it is impossible to confirm whether we will need to make any adjustments to the prom. We will notify POLYTECH families and staff members when we know more.

Will the graduation ceremony for seniors still occur as scheduled?

Given this is a fluid situation and ever changing, it is impossible at this time to know how graduation will be impacted. We will notify POLYTECH families and staff members when we know more.

Will Spring Break still occur as scheduled?

With the extended school closure there is a possibility that the school calendar may need to be adjusted and days originally set aside for Spring Break may be used to offset instructional time lost during the closure. However, no decision has been made at this time. Once decisions are made and information becomes available to us, we will notify POLYTECH families and staff members.

Will refunds be provided for all field trips or planned trips as scheduled?

We are working aggressively with providers to secure refunds; however, we do not have definitive answers at this time. We will notify affected POLYTECH families and staff members once we have more information.

Why is online learning not being used at this time?

POLYTECH is a one-to-one school and all of our students have Chromebooks. However, not all students and staff have access to the internet to deliver online instruction. Furthermore, online learning does not

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allow us to provide a full range of accommodations and related services for students that have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and Section 504 Plans.

How can students continue learning over the school closure time?

Resources for supplemental online learning have been posted on the Parent Portal. Students may wish to spend 60 minutes per core content class, per day, on Khan Academy and read up to 60 minutes per day on Newsela. This work is not required and will not be graded.

- [Home Access Center](#)
- [Khan Academy](#)
- [Newsela reading](#)
- [UD library search](#)
- [AP student resources](#)
- [Open eBooks](#)
- [Virtual YMCA](#)

What if I do not have internet access?

Comcast is offering free internet (Internet Essentials) for low income customers for areas they service, as well as has opened up free Xfinity Wi-Fi hotspots nationwide for the next 60 days. Anyone, not just Comcast customers will be able to access the Internet for free via these hotspots.

To qualify for Internet Essentials, customers must be eligible for public assistance programs such as the National School Lunch Program, Medicaid, or SNAP. Customers can sign up for the service by visiting www.internetessentials.com or call **1-855-846-8376** for English and **1-855-765-6995** for Spanish. To see program terms and conditions go to <https://internetessentials.com/termsandconditions>

Additionally, Xfinity Wi-Fi ___33 hotspot locations can be found by visiting wifi.xfinity.com. Once near a hotspot, consumers should select the “xfinitywifi” network name in the list of available networks, and then launch a browser application.

Can I continue working at my Work-Based Learning (WBL) assignment?

Students may continue their WBL assignment as the employer and their parent/guardian will permits.

Will the SAT make-up day be rescheduled?

We are unsure at this time. The Department of Education is working with College Board and we will provide more information to affected students as the information becomes available.

Will AP Exams and state science and social studies assessments be rescheduled?

We are unsure at this time. The Department of Education is working with College Board and our state testing vendor. We will provide more information to affected students as the information becomes available.