



Geneseo CUSD 228 During COVID

Our School Doors May Be Closed To Students, But Learning Is Still Taking Place!



The Announcement

1. On Friday, March 13th, Governor Pritzker announced schools across Illinois would close their doors on Tuesday, March 17th
2. On Saturday, March 14th, Geneseo Administrators and Teachers met to develop a Remote Learning Plan to educate our students during the closure
3. On Monday, March 16th, teachers met with students for the final time
4. On Tuesday, March 17th, Remote Learning started at Geneseo
 - a. Some school districts across the state did not begin remote learning until April 7th!
5. We started feeding our students on Tuesday, March 17th (two free meals each day of the week)
 - a. We have served over 30,790 meals to date! (5/4/20)



Our Focus (Priorities) During the Closure

1. Priority One - feed our students who are in the greatest need
2. Priority Two - account for the extended safety, health, and welfare of our 3000+ students and staff
3. Priority Three - communicate factual information clearly
4. Priority Four - provide educational opportunities and continuity of education through Remote Learning



What Is Remote Learning

1. Remote learning is a district's best attempt to provide a continuity of education for its students from a remote or virtual setting
 - a. Remote Learning is not having students sit in front of a computer screen for 8 hours a day
 - b. However, we have distributed 150 Chromebooks and multiple WiFi hotspots to families who lacked access to technology and/or adequate Internet
 - c. Most learning is asynchronous which allows students, staff, and families flexibility
2. Remote Learning is new to most school districts across the state
 - a. Only a handful of districts were approved to conduct such learning by ISBE prior to COVID
 - b. Remote Learning has identified the inequities that exist for families and communities across the state



End of Year/Summer/Beginning of Year Items (1)

1. The Governor extended the closure through the academic school year
2. We don't know when students will be allowed to return to our buildings for in-person instruction
 - a. All spring IHSA state sports tournaments have been cancelled
 - i. IHSA has suspended all summer contact days
 - b. ISBE and the Governor have announced that no in-person graduations should take place at this time
 - i. We will be having an alternative "virtual" graduation on May 24
 - c. All summer camps (band, sports, summer learning adventure, summit, etc.) are suspended
 - d. We are looking into options for a remote learning summer school for our neediest students
 - e. We are offering an additional section of the classroom portion of Drivers Education online this summer, so we don't fall even further behind. No behind-the-wheel was offered 4th quarter or this summer.
 - f. Students were able to pick up their remaining belongings in a bag-n-tag/grab-n-go method the week of April 27.



End of Year/Summer/Beginning of Year Items (2)

1. Our last day of student attendance (Day 176) for 2019-2020 is scheduled for May 22
 - a. We are not collecting school items at this time. Families will have access to additional learning activities on our website to continue learning through May or into the summer if they choose.
2. We will continue to feed our families through May 29. In June, alternate annual summer feeding programs will be starting up, including The Lunch Box.
3. Our first day of student attendance (Day 1) for 2020-2021 is scheduled for August 13
 - a. The Governor stated on 4/24/20 that schools should continue to revise their Remote Learning Plans in case they are needed in the fall
 - b. The Governor also announced on 5/5/20 his 5 Phase plan to Restore Illinois, including schools reopening
 - c. We will be ready for in-person learning on August 13, or we can push the start date back if necessary to allow for in-person instruction on day 1, or we will begin Remote Learning on August 13 if it is the best option.



Concluding Remarks

1. Geneseo CUSD 228 responded quickly and professionally to this crisis
 - a. We did not miss a single day of instruction or food distribution (including over spring break)
2. Geneseo CUSD 228 continues to modify our Remote Learning Plan to provide educational opportunities for our students, understanding that each family is different
 - a. Our Plan tried to account for families with more children than devices at home or even those without any access to technology
 - b. We also recognize those families who may have parents who are Essential workers or are working from home
3. Geneseo CUSD 228 is currently making final plans for End of Year items, summer items, and Beginning of Year items to make sure our students have the best educational opportunities possible under the current circumstances, while utilizing a Teach - Learn - Care philosophy.

Questions?