



March 16, 2020

Dear Palisades Community,

As we continue to adjust to this district closure, I will continue to update you on what is occurring in the district, as well as throughout the county, periodically as this situation continues to evolve.

District Information:

By order of the governor, our district remains closed for the next two weeks. Please note that a closure includes all buildings, as well as athletic facilities (tennis courts, track, turf field, etc.). We hope to be able to reopen our schools on Monday, March 30. This situation is, however, changing every day.

Please be advised that all School Board Meetings have been cancelled for the next two weeks.

Cleaning - all classrooms, cafeterias, locker rooms, fitness center, auditoriums and multipurpose rooms were deep cleaned (wiping down all hard surfaces, including doors and knobs, as well as walls and floors) and disinfected (use of Halo and Victory sprayers). Thank you to our custodial crew for a job well done.

Meal Distribution - today we had a great first day of meal distribution to all families by way of our drive through service at Tincum Elementary School. Tincum Police Chief Matthew Phelan, EMA Coordinator Bill Cahill, and the local fire police were on hand to help direct traffic and answer any questions. I would like to thank them for their support at this time!

I would also like to thank our cafeteria crew chiefs for preparing and bagging the meals and the administrative team for distributing the meals and milk to families.

Tincum remains the only site approved by the USDA and PDE for meal distribution to all students regardless of eligibility for free and reduced meals by the federal government. All students are welcome and encouraged to pick up a bagged lunch and bagged breakfast from 11AM to 12:30 PM.

Each meal contains a complete meal with a fruit, vegetable, a sandwich and milk. The breakfast meal may contain items that may be heated in the wrapping for approximately 30 seconds. If you require a gluten-free meal, please let the administrator distributing the meals know and one will be provided for you.



Some of our administrators handing out bagged lunches today



Our cafeteria staff diligently preparing lunches for pick up



Lunches are readied for pick up

County Information:

Please refer to the county site for any additional county updates: <http://buckscounty.org/>

Ways you can help:

Thank you to all who have reached out to offer support to the Palisades community!

For now, here are a few ways that you can help:

- The Lord's Pantry in Ottsville is in need of the following items - paper products, soap, baby wipes, diapers, Chunky Soups, canned meats, fresh fruits, bagged salads, and any protein items (other than peanut butter). The pantry is open on Mondays from 2-5PM, Tuesdays 9:30-11:30AM, and Thursdays 9:30AM-1:30PM.
- Donations can also be made to Palisades Community Foundation (PCF) to help support needs for families in the district. Checks can be made payable to Palisades Community Foundation and mailed to P.O. Box 194, Kintnersville, PA 18930. Your donations are welcome in any amount and they are tax deductible.
- Assist neighbors and family members who may not be able to get out to a store to purchase necessary items. If you are able to help those who are elderly or immune-compromised, I am sure that your kindness would also be appreciated.

- As you know, nursing homes are now closed to visitors. You may consider writing a letter to a resident in Valley Manor (which is within the school district) at 7650 PA-309, Coopersburg, PA 18036.
- It is also important to be mindful of our own and each other's mental health. If you, or someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis, you can contact the Pennsylvania state's 24/7 hotline by texting "PA" to 741-741. There are other resources listed on our district's website - please click here for others:
<https://www.palisd.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=188568>

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget O'Connell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bridget O'Connell, Superintendent