



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
EDUCATION ACTIVITY
AMERICAS SOUTHEAST DISTRICT
5701 SANTA FE ROAD
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-2724

DATE: March 13, 2020

The Department of Defense Education Activity Americas Region and Fort Knox leadership are following Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear's recommendation Thursday, March 12 to close in-person classes for at least the next two weeks, beginning Monday, March 16.

Here is a list of the changes:

- **Starting Monday, March 16, DoDEA school buildings at Fort Knox, Kentucky, will be closed to students.** This action is being taken as a prudent measure to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). At this time, students should not report back to school until Monday, April 6. Staff will report at the usual time to begin online training.
- **All school extracurricular activities are canceled/postponed effective Saturday, March 14.** This includes, but is not limited to, all scholastic and athletic competitions, sports practices, music/drama/arts performance, school trips and any other extra-curricular activities. Additionally, this includes outside groups that meet at our schools.
- **Monday, March 16 to Wednesday, March 18 will be a teacher and staff workday.** This will allow administrators and teachers to collaborate and prepare to ensure continuity of instruction for online teaching.
- **Thursday, March 19 students can expect to begin receiving assignments.** Students will be expected to complete online learning assignments and/or work packets as assigned by their classroom teachers. School principals and teachers will be sending out additional information related to this expectation by Tuesday, March 17.
- **Monday, March 30 to Friday, April 3 spring break takes place. No student or staff attendance.**

We recognize the hardship this decision places on many families but believe it is in the public's best interest if it means we can contribute to protecting our students as well as the community's health and well-being.

We appreciate the patience and understanding of our students' parents as they support our efforts to maintain continuity of education. We have plans in place at the district and school-level, and DoDEA headquarters is committed to providing schools with all the resources necessary. The district will review conditions and publish an update each Friday by 5 p.m. on

the local school web pages.

The following website serves as DoDEA's official source for information on COVID-19, highlighting associated impacts as well as response and prevention efforts:
[https://www.dodea.edu/ Coronavirus .cf m](https://www.dodea.edu/Coronavirus.cfm). Please continue to visit this website for updates.

Also, we ask families to continue following the COVID-19/coronavirus guidelines as shared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that are posted on its website:
[https:// www.cdc .gov/ coronavirus/ 2019-ncov/ about / index.ht ml](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html). These include monitoring family members' health for flu-like symptoms and reaching out to a local health provider if these symptoms occur.

Please know that this is a unique situation for DoDEA schools and our Army, Commonwealth and nation. We do not yet have all the answers but are committed to communicating with the Fort Knox Community Schools family as frequently and openly as possible. DoDEA and Fort Knox leadership will continue to coordinate closely to ensure accurate and timely information is available and to encourage all appropriate measures to help prevent the spread of the virus.



Gregory R. Bull
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