



Bethalto Community Unit School District #8

101 School Street, Bethalto, Illinois 62010
Phone: (618) 377-7200 - Fax: (618) 551-7628
www.bethalto.org

Dr. Jill Griffin, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Barrett Deist
Assistant Superintendent of
Finance & Operations, CSBO

Dr. Kelly McClain
Director of Curriculum, Instruction,
& Assessment

Mrs. Jennifer Weber
Coordinator of Special Education

Greetings EagleNation,

Today the Governor announced the suspension of in-person learning for the remainder of the school year. We understand that this closure will have a significant impact on our families, but we also believe this action is necessary to flatten the curve, protect lives, and stop the spread of COVID-19. We want to remind families that while our buildings are closed, school is still in session. Learning will continue in an alternate space. Our staff will continue to engage your students remotely during this time to ensure they are ready for their return to our buildings next year. If they do not stay engaged during this time, deficiencies in learning may occur and transitional learning opportunities over the summer may be necessary.

Our staff has worked diligently, as have our students and families, to make the transition to remote learning over the past several weeks. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we have transitioned to this new online environment and are learning and growing during this new time. We continue to refine remote learning and will be using this Friday, April 24th, as a Remote Learning Planning Day. This means that your students will not be engaged in learning and our staff will not be available to students.

Please note that this closure includes all BCUSD#8 athletic events and extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. District facilities, fields, and playgrounds will continue to be unavailable for use until further notice. Commencement will be postponed for a later date in hopes the large group gathering restrictions will be lifted at some point throughout the summer months. We will continue to share more information regarding graduation in the future as more information is shared with us from the government.

Remote Learning:

Remote learning will continue until the end of our regularly scheduled school year which is May 28th. Mr. Newell will share additional information as it relates to our seniors' last day of online attendance. As we move forward, knowing that we are not returning to our school buildings, it is essential that we work together to engage our students and find the right balance between home and school life. Please continue to communicate with your teachers and administrators during this remote time.

Meal Distribution:

At this time, we plan to continue food distribution to our students. Details about the program can be found on the district website and Facebook page. A schoolmessenger text and email was sent out earlier today.

Building Access/Retrieving & Returning Items:

We understand students may have personal belongings and school supplies in our buildings. We are developing a plan to follow the government restrictions while finding a method to disseminate students' personal belongings as well as collect items from students. Please be patient as we work through these plans as a district. We will communicate the plan with families in the weeks to come.

Remember you can always find the most up-to-date and accurate information as it relates to COVID-19, food distribution and remote learning at our website: https://www.bethalto.org/bcUSD8_covid-19.html.

We know that you will have additional questions, and we will do our best to respond as quickly as possible. If you have immediate questions during this remote time, please do not hesitate to contact the Central Office at 618-377-7200 from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. daily. We realize this wasn't the year any of us had hoped for, but we want to be your partner in education, and work collaboratively to ensure your child experiences success while we work through this transitional period remotely.

Sincerely,

Jill Griffin, Ed.D.
Superintendent