



Dr. Dana Fall, Superintendent

**Cherokee County School District
Office of the Superintendent
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April 22, 2020

IMPORTANT COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Employees, Parents, and Stakeholders,

It is hard to believe that our original April 30 closure will be coming to an end in the coming weeks. What we had hoped would be a brief pause in the academic year has instead turned into a complete shift in the way we all have to think about our children's care and education during this health emergency. I know I speak for all here at CCSD when I say that we are so humbled and grateful for your kindness, patience and encouragement as we have worked to keep students fed and engaged in their learning.

Now that Governor Henry McMaster has ordered all South Carolina K-12 schools to be closed for the rest of the 2019-2020 academic year, the uncertainty of the length of closure is over, and there's a certain power in that knowledge. Now we know what we have to do. Of course, there are many, many questions, but now we can move forward. We must take the lessons we've learned these past weeks, sustain that momentum and build on it. Our job is to educate this county's children. That has not changed. How we do it is what is rapidly evolving. As stated in my previous correspondence, our current eLearning plan takes us to April 30. We will refer to this timeframe as Phase Two. Phase two assignments will be due on April 30 with scheduled paper packet drop-off dates organized on April 23 and April 30, at each of your student's school locations. We will be implementing a Phase Three of our eLearning in the coming week and will be updating you as soon as available. As Molly Spearman, South Carolina State Superintendent, stated, we will begin mapping out a plan that will take us to the end of this school year. Additional learning opportunities may be available this summer or our students.

CCSD Academic Plan and eLearning

The State Department of Education has issued guidelines for grading, particularly as they relate to high school courses that grant credits. SCDE has determined Pass/Fail is not an option for South Carolina's high school students. However, in recognition that learning from home is very difficult for some students, 3rd quarter grades earned while school was in session will influence semester and final grades more than those earned during the school closure. Cherokee County School District is continuing to work with SCDE to develop a framework that aligns with the direction given by the state, and puts a priority on ensuring seniors are able to complete all necessary coursework to graduate with their class. This process will be evolving for the long term. We will now expand our eLearning process until the end of the school year, in keeping with Governor McMaster's order to close of South Carolina Schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, May 29.

Food Services – Feeding Program

This I can guarantee, as long as we are able, meals will continue to be offered to all students without charge at the school and our community sites. All students can receive their meals at our designated school locations or at any of our designated pick-up locations located throughout the community. To maintain the safety guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), meals are provided using a drive by/pickup model.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we strive to continue to put our students and staff first in these unprecedented times. We will continue to keep the public informed as more developments become available. I cannot stress enough how important it is for our employees, students, parents, and stakeholders to only refer to Cherokee County School District's official district information that is released via our AlertNow system and our website and social media channels. Please continue to stay safe!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dana Fall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

Dr. Dana Fall
Superintendent