

Heritage CUSD #8 Families,

Thank you for your extraordinary support and understanding, as we work together to protect our community during the growing coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. To further safeguard Illinois from the spread of the virus, Governor JB Pritzker has declared mandatory school closures for all buildings, both public and private, serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students. This is in place currently until March 30. These are uncharted waters for all of us. Information is fluid with this situation and changes rapidly even within a given day. The following is the most current information we have available for the short term closing:

Closure Details

- Heritage CUSD #8 schools are closed for students beginning Monday, March 16-March 30. We anticipate that Governor Pritzker will allow us to reopen on March 31. Per the latest state guidance, the remaining days of closure will be considered Act of God days, which means that we will NOT have to make them up at the end of the year.
- Administration and limited staff will be in our building offices during this closure to conduct business by phone or email.

Meals

- Free bagged, grab-and-go breakfast/lunch sacks will be available for pick up daily beginning on Tuesday, March 24, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM at both buildings. Pick up at the Homer building will be at the front entrance and pick up at the Broadlands building will be at the northwest entrance of the new addition.
- Please email Elementary/Junior High Principal Kristi Sanders kristi.sanders@heritage8.org or High School Principal Corey White corey.white@heritage8.org with how many orders you will expect to pick up on Tuesday, March 24. Your reservation must be made by noon on **Monday, March 23**.
- We will have a form on Tuesday that you can fill out for the rest of the week through March 30 for future reservations. We will still take reservations by email for new orders for the next day as long as they are in by noon the previous day. You will then be asked to fill out a form for future reservations when you pick up your order.
- Updates on our meals program and latest developments state-wide will be posted at www.heritage8.org.

Home-Based Learning

- We are committed to keeping students engaged in learning through home-based learning opportunities. Learning links and additional school specific guidance for accessing resources will be posted on the district website www.heritage8.org. None of the work completed during this time will be used for grading or assessment purposes.
- Please make note that because these days are considered Act of God days, none of the work completed during this time will be used for grading or assessment purposes. No student can be penalized or receive extra credit for work during this time. This is a directive from the Illinois State Board of Education.

Additional Resources

- Comcast is offering free Internet for 60 days. More information on that can be found on their website.
- To supplement these offerings, the Illinois State Board of Education has compiled a library of resources on their website. The link to those resources is on our COVID-19 web page at <https://heritage8.org/covid-19-resources/>

We will continue to inform you as quickly as we can about any further changes to school services. Please check our webpage, social media, your email and the phone alert messages for updates.

We appreciate your partnership, and we will get through this together.