



CLIENT ALERT
March 13, 2020

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Please find the following as additional information for the COVID-19 issues the districts are facing:

When making contingency plans, you should consider using all available tools to meet instructional time, to include re-purposing snow days and [Act 80](#) days built into your calendar or extending the school calendar.

If there is a time at which one or more schools in an LEA is in jeopardy of not meeting the 180 days or 990/900-hours required, PDE will publish a template on its website for LEAs to apply for a waiver to request no loss of state subsidy.

Additionally, if an outbreak of the coronavirus does impact your community and prevents you from administering PSSAs or Keystone exams, the Department will help you work through those scenarios when they arise. Any plan on Covid-19 should be grounded in preserving the health and safety of the educational community.

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/messages/Pages/March6.aspx>.

Likewise, please see attached the Milk Marketing Case which allows for boards to hold a quorum and conduct a board meeting electronically in the event that school would close and the board would still need to meet to take official district action. Furthermore, for any schools which are considering closure, we would likewise suggest at this meeting or at the next scheduled meeting that a motion be placed upon the agenda as follows:

“The Business Manager is hereby authorized and approved to make payments on any necessary or outstanding bills which impact the day to day operations of the district during temporary closure of the school district as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

The above motion allows general operational bills to be paid without board action in the event that the closure may last longer than expected.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education’s twitter account indicated yesterday that it had received approval to allow K-12 schools in Pennsylvania closed due to COVID-19 to serve meals offsite to students.

<https://twitter.com/PADeptofEd>

Schools should confirm that they have plans in order to do so as PDE is recommending that local schools be contacted.