



April 23, 2020

Dear Families,

As per Governor Walz's order today, April 23, 2020, we will continue our distance learning plans for the remainder of the school year. Per the Governor's order, we will be using Friday, May 1 and Monday, May 4 as preparation days for our staff. There will be no distance learning on these two days.

Included within this order, we will continue to offer free meals to children ages 1-18 and emergency child care for those families that are eligible through Friday, June 5. Please see more detailed information below regarding these services.

Distance Learning

Distance Learning will continue to provide Early Childhood - Grade 12 students with access to appropriate educational materials and ensure they receive daily interaction with their licensed teacher(s). Please refer to the district's detailed [Distance Learning Plan](https://bit.ly/ISD761-DL), available here, <https://bit.ly/ISD761-DL>, and linked from our district website. If you need technology assistance, please contact our Technology Support Hotline 444-8630.

Meal Distribution Plan

As a part of our continued efforts to feed our students, we will be providing free meals to all children ages 1-18 years old at 14 different locations throughout the community. For further details on meal pick up please see the links below.

[Free Meal Pick Up Flyer](#)

[Bus Delivery Locations](#)

[Owatonna Food Map](#)

Child care

We will continue to offer childcare for students ages Kindergarten through age 12 for parents who are emergency and essential workers that are required to report to work per Governor Walz's Executive Order. The District will continue to provide school-day care free of charge; however, a change for all families is a charge for before and after school care. Fees will be \$4 for morning care and \$6 for after school care. Families who have been utilizing the emergency child care site will receive direct communication from the SAC Team with official notice of the change and guidelines for continuing to access Emergency Child Care.

Additionally, child care opportunities will be extended to ALL families for a fee of \$30 per day. Application for care can be completed at [school district/community education website](#). An FAQ sheet is available on the school district/community education website to answer questions, provide contact information and further directions to enroll in child care for the remainder of the school year. Questions can be answered directly by calling our Community Education office at 507-444-7900.

Please see this extensive list of [Tier I and Tier II](#) eligibility for emergency/essential employee school day child care.

Care contracts will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis until site capacity is reached. A site capacity has been established that allows for continuing physical distancing and full utilization of available staff.

Thank you for your continued understanding, patience, support, and forgiveness during this rapidly changing pandemic health crisis. The safety and support of our students, families, staff, and communities are our top priority. The District will continue to put relationships with our students and families as paramount. Additional updates will be sent to you via email or on our district [website](#) as they are made available to us.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Elstad
Superintendent
Owatonna Public Schools

Resources:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

<https://mcforms.mayo.edu/mc3100-mc3199/mc3127-11.pdf>