



Senior Updates

International Baccalaureate (IB): Students taking IB courses will not take the traditional exams this semester. To receive the IB Diploma, students will have to submit their work to IB for approval. Review the following IB web page to find the answers to many questions about the IB program: <https://ibo.org/news/news-about-the-ib/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/>. Students should carefully review the “Results” section under Topic links on this webpage for information regarding options to obtain the IB Diploma.

Advanced Placement (AP): For the 2019–20 exam only, students can take a 45-minute online free-response exam at home. Since some students have lost more instructional time than others, the exam will include only topics and skills most AP teachers and students covered in class by early March.

Please use this link to access free exam practice courses offered by AP on YouTube:
<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates#free-ap-classes>.

Colleges support the shortened test solution and are committed to ensuring that AP students receive the credit they have worked to earn. For decades, colleges have accepted a shortened AP exam for college credit when groups of students have experienced emergencies. Students will be able to take these streamlined exams on any device including a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Submitting a photo of handwritten work will also be an option.

The College Board recognizes that the digital divide could prevent some low-income and rural students from participating. Working with partners, College Board will ensure that these students have the tools and connectivity they need to review AP content online and take the exam. If students need mobile tools or connectivity, they should reach out directly to College Board to request assistance by completing the form at <https://collegeboard.tfaforms.net/74>. This general website gives additional updated information on the changes discussed in this document <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>.

How to Obtain a Transcript: MPS uses Parchment to send official transcripts for students applying to college. Once the request is approved at the school level, Parchment will electronically send (in some cases, via the U.S. Postal Service) an official transcript to institutions across the United States. Current high school students may request as many transcripts as needed at no cost at <https://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/Students/Resources/Transcripts.htm>.

Grading Decisions: MPS is developing a plan for grading at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Pending approval by the Milwaukee Board of School Directors, details will be communicated to families.



Graduation Ceremonies: All graduation ceremonies have been postponed.

Graduation Requirements: MPS is finalizing graduation requirements based on guidance from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Pending approval by the Milwaukee Board of School Directors, families of seniors will receive more detailed information specific to their child's progress toward graduation. As we continue to audit transcripts, families will receive a notification from their school administrator with important details about their child's graduation status.

Biennial Music Festival and Cantos de las Americas: These programs have been cancelled.

Proms: All prom events have been cancelled. All money collected for student tickets must be refunded.

State Assessments: The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) received approval to implement waivers related to federal assessment and accountability requirements. Schools are not able to administer the statewide assessments for the 2019–20 school year. There will be no further state assessments this school year. This includes the Wisconsin Forward Exam, Dynamic Learning Maps, ACT Aspire, and ACT make-up tests. The state is developing a plan for students who missed their opportunity to take the ACT free of charge. After the Department of Public Instruction has finalized a plan with ACT, they will notify districts of steps to take to provide the ACT to students.

No decision will be made on Star assessments or PALS until we know if we are returning to school prior to the end of the scheduled school year. For questions or concerns, please contact assessment@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Summer Academy June Term: Staff will identify students who need to attend Summer Academy for credit attainment.

Summer Academy July Term: At this time, the July Summer Academy session will take place as planned. Information on applications will be available closer to the start of summer classes. The district website will provide more information.

Edgenuity: MPS encourages students to keep working on their classes. Students can access all coursework from home if families have a device and internet access. Students may also access Edgenuity on a smartphone.



Individual Education Plans and Services: During the school closure due to a public health pandemic, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has not waived special education timelines, and Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) will abide by the following:

- All special education evaluations, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) complaints, mediations and Individualized Education Program (IEP) timelines will be extended and be conducted as quickly as possible once school reopens.
- Special education services, related services and scientific research-based interventions (SRBIs) for Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) will resume when the student is available after school resumes.
- Special education referrals will be processed when the public health order for school closure is lifted and testing will begin when the student is available.
- For students with disabilities, if it is determined that compensatory services must be addressed when the public health order is lifted and school resumes, then guidance regarding this will be provided at that time in the context of an IEP meeting.

Beginning April 6, 2020, if you have specific questions regarding your MPS enrolled student, please leave a message stating the student's name and birthdate along with your name and contact information at 414-438-3648 and you will be contacted within 24 hours of your call.