

Update on State Testing and Other Requirements

The Florida Department of Education announced significant changes to the state's requirements, calendar and other educational expectations of all school districts due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Highlights of these announcements are provided below.

- All Florida schools, public and private, are closed until at least April 15, 2020.
- School districts should be prepared to extend their school year until June 30, 2020, to the extent it is feasible and necessary.
- All state testing, Florida Standards Assessments (FSAs), End-of-Course exams and other state mandated examinations are cancelled.
- Student graduation and promotion decisions will be based on local criteria.
- Eligibility for Florida Bright Futures scholarships shall be based on available data and results. Tests that were not available to be taken shall not be counted.
- The Commissioner of Education has been granted authority to adjust the minimum instructional hours requirements for schools to accommodate for closures.
- School and district grades will not be calculated for the 2019/20 school year.
- School districts have been provided flexibility and given direction to collaborate with parents to determine the best manner and timeframe to provide Exceptional Student Education services, hold Individual Education Plan meetings, provide Bilingual/ESOL services and provide other student support services.

- School districts have been authorized to utilize certain federal grant and state categorical funds to procure digital devices and provide internet connectivity.
- School districts have been authorized to utilize certain federal grant and state categorical funds to provide telephone and internet-based mental health, social-emotional and other comprehensive wellness supports.
- School districts will receive their full allocation of funding for programs this fiscal year, as if the school year had not been interrupted by COVID-19.

Additional information can be obtained from the verified sources listed below.

The Governor's press conference can be viewed at: bit.ly/2WroR4v

The Florida Department of Education announcement is at: bit.ly/3b9Gaeu

For more information and updates, visit browardschools.com/coronavirus.

Please note information is always changing and we will provide the latest updates as soon as possible.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida Lori Alhadeff • Robin Bartleman • Heather P. Brinkworth • Patricia Good • Donna P. Korn
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