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Dear Families,

During this uncertain time, I want to reach out and let you know that I am here to support your family in any way I can. I will have all of you in my thoughts during the school closure. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

In the event that the closure is extended, I have created a Google Classroom site for all students on my caseload. All students have been invited and will be able to join with their MPS login. I will post messages and assignments on this site as necessary.

Attached are some resources to help your family. Again, please call, text, or email me if you need anything else.

Sincerely,
Megan Sutton

Here's a list of restaurants offering free lunches to students while K-12 schools are closed

 [kstp.com/coronavirus/list-of-restaurants-offering-free-lunches-while-schools-are-closed/5674954/](https://www.kstp.com/coronavirus/list-of-restaurants-offering-free-lunches-while-schools-are-closed/5674954/)

318 Cafe in Excelsior is providing free turkey, ham and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with a side of fruit to all children in need.

Jersey Mike's Subs in St. Cloud is offering free kids meals with the purchase of a regular sub through March 27.

Great Harvest in Maple Grove is offering free bread and goody bags to families in need starting Monday.

Umi Sushi and Hibachi in Blaine will give out a free kid's size lo mein and a fountain drink during lunch hours to any child in need. No purchase is necessary.

Cafe Cravings in White Bear Lake is serving free meals of sandwiches and potato chips for kids from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Minnesota-based baking mix company **Coconut Whisk Baking Co.** is offering a week's worth of free pancake and waffle mixes.

Que Viet in Northeast Minneapolis will give away free fried rice starting on Wednesday.

Granite City Food & Brewery in Roseville and St. Cloud will provide free lunches containing turkey sandwiches, chips and applesauce. No purchase is necessary.

VIVO Kitchen in Apple Valley will be delivering lunches to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville starting Tuesday. More partnerships with churches are set to be announced.

Manea's Meats in Sauk Rapids will serve bag lunches consisting of turkey and cheese sandwiches, chips and bottled water. Lunches will be served starting at 11 a.m. No purchases are necessary.

Day by Day Cafe in St. Paul will provide hot dogs and chips to children who are home from school starting on Monday.

Piada Italian Street Food, which has locations in Eagan, Woodbury and the Mall of America, will be handing out free pasta with sauce, cheese and a fountain drink from 10:45 a.m.-1 p.m. from Monday through April 3.

Billy's on Grand in St. Paul is offering kids 14 and under free meals from the kid's menu from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Trapper's Bar and Grill in Lino Lakes will serve a free bag lunch, chips and applesauce starting Tuesday.

Chapala Mexican Restaurant in Cambridge will serve a free lunch to children starting Sunday.

Billy D's Crooked Tavern in Annandale will be providing free lunches that include a turkey sandwich, potato chips and yogurt starting Monday.

Frankie's in New Hope will be giving out free bag lunches, and kids can have a free meal if dining in.

Suzie's Kitchen in Rosemount is offering free lunches to students. They ask anyone who needs a meal to send them a message.

Eggroll Queen Cafe in Falcon Heights will provide kids with an egg roll, fruit and fried rice through March 27.

Ernie's on Gull in Brainerd and **Main Street Ale House** in Nisswa will be offering balanced meals to students starting 11 a.m. Monday.

Ha Long Bay in White Bear Lake will be serving free meals to kids who receive free and reduced price lunches from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. through March 27. No purchase is necessary.

Whiskey Inferno in Savage and Prior Lake will be giving out boxed lunches consisting of a sandwich, fruit cup, chips, a cookie and milk starting Tuesday. It will also have a collection for the local food shelf.

Manger Restaurant and Wine Bar in Bayport will leave sack lunches in coolers on its front patio. Lunches include a sandwich, banana, carrot sticks, peanut butter crackers and a juice box.

Lock and Dam Eatery in Hastings will make a bag lunch for pickup for those who call ahead.

Topper's Pizza in Blaine is offering free small pizzas during lunch hours.

Gracie's With a Cup of Joe in Le Center is delivering free boxed lunches to any child who needs one. Call 507-357-4816 or 952-564-4055 to schedule a delivery.

Bourbon Butcher in Farmington is offering boxed lunches consisting of a sandwich, a fruit cup, chips, a cookie and milk starting Tuesday. The restaurant will also be collecting donations for the Farmington Food Shelf.

Thirsty Buffalo Saloon in Buffalo, Minnesota, is offering bagged lunches with ham, turkey and cheese sandwiches, applesauce, chips and a brownie during normal business hours.

Bakery on Main in Waconia will offer free breakfast while schools are closed.

Rascals Bar and Grill in Apple Valley will offer free boxed lunches between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

El Tejaban in Richfield is offering free kids meals to all kids under 15 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. through April 1.

North Country Cafe in Crosby will provide boxed lunches to all students starting Wednesday. Customers are asked to contact the restaurant by Tuesday so staff can prepare.

Pangea Cafe in Waconia will offer meals from 7 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Maya Cuisine NE in Minneapolis will also offer meals.

The Tavern on Main in Lino Lakes is offering free meals to kids, which includes a sandwich, applesauce, chips, cheese stick and Oreo cookies.

Station 280 in St. Paul is offering meals.

Mario's Italian Kitchen in Watertown will also have meals available.


Peoples Organic in Minneapolis, Edina and Eden Prairie is offering free meals for kids.

Bunkers of Course in Buffalo is offering a free kids meal with each adult entree purchased.

4 Seasons Restaurant in Mahtomedi will have free meals available.

Do you know any other places giving kids free lunches? Email us at web@kstp.com, and we'll add them to the list.

Free Online Learning Resources for Teaching Your Students Virtually

 [weareteachers.com/free-online-learning-resources/](https://www.weareteachers.com/free-online-learning-resources/)

Jill Staake

March 13, 2020

Elementary (Grades K-5) Online Learning Resources

These sites have ready-to-use lesson plans and activities for a vast amount of subjects for younger students.

ABCmouse Early Learning Academy

- **What It Is:** This comprehensive program covers a wide variety of subjects for students aged 2-8 (Pre-K through second grade). It offers more than 850 self-guided lessons across 10 levels. A companion program focuses on teaching English as a second language for this age group.
- **What They're Offering:** ABCmouse for Teachers and ABCmouse for Schools are always free for all schools and teachers in the U.S. In another country? Contact them here to see what they offer if you're closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus.

Adventure Academy

- **What It Is:** This MMO game gives kids something other online learning resources may lack: a sense of community. Students up to age 13 play games to learn across a range of topics (math, reading, social studies, science, and more), while also creating their own online persona and interacting with others in the game.
- **What They're Offering:** In addition to their usual 30-day free trial, Age of Learning is offering Adventure Academy free to schools closed due to the outbreak. Contact them here for more information.

BrainPOP

- **What It Is:** BrainPop offers in-depth learning on topics across the curriculum for upper elementary and middle school students. Each topic includes videos, quizzes, related reading, and even coding activities. Teachers have access to planning and tracking resources too. They also offer BrainPop Jr., specially designed for younger kids.
- **What They're Offering:** All schools get free access to their COVID-19/coronavirus online learning resources for talking to students about the topic. Any school closed due to the outbreak can receive free unlimited use of BrainPOP during their closure. Contact them here.

Breakout EDU

- **What It Is:** Breakout EDU uses online games to bring the fun of escape rooms to learning across the elementary curriculum.
- **What They're Offering:** They've put together a list of free online games kids can play at home. Click here to see them.

Elementari

- **What It Is:** Turn writing assignments into something amazing with the illustrations, animations, and sound effects available. Kids can even write their own choose-your-own-adventure story!

- **What They're Offering:** Schools affected by COVID-19/coronavirus can get free access until May 2020 or the school reopens. Contact them here.

Freckle

- **What It Is:** These online learning resources for younger students are easily differentiated for students of different ability levels.
- **What They're Offering:** Adaptive math and ELA courses are always available for free for teachers and students. Sign up here.

iCompute

- **What It Is:** This program is designed to teach elementary-aged kids the computer skills they need. It's specifically aligned to learning standards in the UK, but the skills apply to students everywhere.
- **What They're Offering:** iCompute is offering free access to their programs for schools anywhere that are closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus. Contact them here.

Kids Discover Online

- **What It Is:** This library of science and social studies articles allows differentiation by reading level, so you can use these articles for various age and skill levels.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools and districts closed due to the outbreak can request free unlimited access to Kids Discover Online here.

MobyMax

- **What It Is:** This popular differentiated learning site provides instruction across a wide array of elementary subjects. Teachers and districts can receive online training on effectively using the site.
- **What They're Offering:** All K-8 schools closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus can receive free access to a comprehensive curriculum through MobyMax. Learn more here.

Mystery Science

- **What It Is:** Mystery Science offers digital video mini-lessons for science subjects K-5.
- **What They're Offering:** Mystery Science is always free, but they've put together a special list of lessons grade-by-grade that are perfect for tackling remotely. Find it here.

Newsela

- **What It Is:** Authentic news content turned into learning materials that are classroom-ready.
- **What They're Offering:** Newsela has put together content for teachers to prepare for distance learning.

PebbleGo

- **What It Is:** PebbleGo offers safe, interactive online research resources on topics selected by their teachers for students K-3.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools can get free access to PebbleGo during closures. Learn more here.

Prodigy

- **What It Is:** Get game-based learning in math for kids from first to eighth grade. The site offers lots of how-to articles to make your distance learning effective and fun.
- **What They're Offering:** The basic Prodigy site is always free. Sign up here.

Purple Mash

- **What It Is:** This British company's site hosts games and creative learning opportunities for elementary level math, spelling, and writing. Teachers can set daily tasks for students, create a blog, and find other ways to communicate.
- **What They're Offering:** Purple Mash is offering free access for schools closed due to the outbreak for the duration of their closure. Find out more about using Purple Mash When School is Closed.

ReadingIQ

- **What It Is:** ReadingIQ is a comprehensive digital library offering books, magazines, comics, and more for kids from ages 2-12. It's a smart replacement for library time right now and makes it possible for teachers to monitor what and how much their students are reading.
- **What They're Offering:** Age of Learning is offering ReadingIQ free to schools closed due to the outbreak. Contact them here for more information.

Scholastic

- **What It Is:** Scholastic created the Scholastic Learn at Home website to provide students with approximately 20 days worth of learning journeys that span various content areas. Students get approximately three hours of learning opportunities per day, including projects based on articles and stories, virtual field trips, reading and geography challenges, and more.
- **What They're Offering:** This service is free and limits printing materials for those who don't have adequate access. Learn more here.

Tynker

- **What It Is:** Tynker offers a complete online computer coding curriculum for students K-8. Teachers can get free lessons, projects, and more on the site.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools impacted by COVID-19/coronavirus can get free access to Tynker's complete curriculum, including online professional development courses for teachers. Learn more here.

Vooks

What It Is: Missing storytime already? Vooks is a kid-safe online streaming library of read-aloud animated storybooks.

What They're Offering: Vooks is offering a free one-year membership to all teachers. Find out more here.

Junior High and High School (Grades 6-12) Online Learning Resources

Use these ready-to-implement resources in your virtual classrooms for older learners.

Albert

- **What It Is:** Albert is an online practice and assessment resource for core topics grades 6-12. Teachers can assign modules and track student progress. Albert's online learning resources include practice questions for a wide variety of AP programs too. It's best used as a companion to other online teaching methods like web conferencing since it's meant to review information students have already been learning.
- **What They're Offering:** In addition to their 30-day free pilot program, schools closed due to the outbreak can get a free extended pilot for as long as the closure lasts. Contact them [here](#).

ChemMatters Online

- **What It Is:** This is a terrific resource for middle school and high school science teachers. Each issue provides a new collection of articles on chemistry topics that students will find engaging and relatable. The back-issue online library offers interesting downloadable articles on all sorts of chemistry-related topics, while the Teacher's Guides help you direct your students as they learn from their reading.
- **What They're Offering:** These online learning resources are always free for everyone. Learn more [here](#).

DeltaMath

- **What It Is:** DeltaMath is a website that allows teachers to assign math practice content to their students from middle school through AP calculus. Students get immediate feedback as they complete the problems.
- **What They're Offering:** DeltaMath is always free. Check it out [here](#).

HippoCampus

- **What It Is:** Find more than 7,000 videos in 13 subject areas to share with your students. Teachers can set up playlists for their students too.
- **What They're Offering:** HippoCampus is always free to use. Sign up [here](#).

Mangahigh

- **What It Is:** Mangahigh is a popular game-based site for math online learning resources. It covers algebra, geometry, statistics, and more.
- **What They're Offering:** Mangahigh is offering free full access to any school shut down during the outbreak. Learn more [here](#).

VidCode

- **What It Is:** VidCode is an online coding and computer science curriculum specifically for teens. It teaches JavaScript, web programming, design, and more.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools can get access to VidCode's course for free until at least May 2020. Contact them [here](#).

K-12 Online Learning Resources

These sites have lesson plans and activities ready to go on a variety of subjects for any grade.

Century

- **What It Is:** Century was designed as an intervention tool to identify and remedy gaps in a student's education. It uses artificial intelligence to tailor the learning experience to the learner, much like an actual teacher in the classroom would.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools closed due to the outbreak can get free access to Century's online learning resources. [Click here to learn more.](#)

CK-12

- **What It Is:** This collection of online learning resources covers pretty much every topic. Lessons include reading, activities, videos, and more to engage students. They also have free online textbooks.
- **What They're Offering:** CK-12 is always free for all users. Teachers can check it out [here](#).

ClassHook

- **What It Is:** ClassHook offers quality media clips on every conceivable topic. Pre-curated playlists make it easier to find what you need for the subject at hand.
- **What They're Offering:** Basic access is always free. Schools closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus can also get free access to ClassHook Premium. [Learn how here.](#)

CommonLit

- **What It Is:** This site offers literary and non-fiction reading passages for grades 3-12. Teachers can assign reading and follow-up questions, and track student progress.
- **What They're Offering:** CommonLit always offers free accounts for teachers to use with their students. [Sign up here.](#)

Curriki

- **What It Is:** Curriki provides teacher-vetted, open-resource lesson plans and materials on a wide array of subjects. It's a good place to find online learning resources for students to use at home.
- **What They're Offering:** Curriki is always free to use. [Sign up here.](#)

Discovery Education

- **What It Is:** Discovery Education provides online textbooks, multimedia content, and professional development support for virtual classrooms and teachers.
- **What They're Offering:** U.S. schools can receive free access to Discovery Education Experience through the end of the school year. [Learn more here.](#)

Education Perfect

- **What It Is:** EP Classroom provides a wide range of customizable online learning experiences. Their site notes that teachers in China and other affected areas have already been using their resources with great success for the last few weeks.
- **What They're Offering:** This platform is free for all users. [Sign up here.](#)

EVERFI

- **What It Is:** EVERFI offers courses for K-12 on real-world topics like mental health, financial planning, career readiness, and more.
- **What They're Offering:** These courses are always free for educators and students. Learn more here.

Free Math App

- **What It Is:** This no-frills site requires students to show their work on math problems, step-by-step. When it's time to grade, you can take a look at their work to see exactly where things went wrong and correct problems quickly.
- **What They're Offering:** As the title says, this site is always free for teachers and students. Check it out here.

Gamilab

- **What It Is:** Turn learning into a game when you create online quizzes and learning experiences. Use their extensive question bank, plus upload your own as needed.
- **What They're Offering:** Gamilab is always free for everyone. Sign up here.

Izzit

- **What It Is:** Watch a video on a subject, then use the teacher guide for discussion, take a quiz, or use the other online learning resources provided.
- **What They're Offering:** Izzit's online courses are free. Teachers and students can sign up for a free account here.

Kahoot!

- **What It Is:** Do you Kahoot? Teachers have loved this fun online quiz game platform for years. Here's why we're into it.
- **What They're Offering:** Kahoot! Basic is free for educators and students, but they're also currently offering their Premium distance learning tools for free. Learn more here.

Kami

- **What It Is:** Kami is a PDF and document annotation app for schools. Think of it like digital pen and paper for interacting with your students.
- **What They're Offering:** Kami is offering free access to schools closed due to the outbreak. Contact them here.

Khan Academy

- **What It Is:** Khan Academy is well-known for providing an incredibly wide range of lessons for students at every level. Chances are you'll find at least some of what you need for your virtual classroom here.
- **What They're Offering:** Khan Academy is always free for all users. Sign up here.

Kognity

- **What It Is:** Kognity has turned traditional textbooks into interactive online experiences with videos, animations, and automatically-corrected assessments.
- **What They're Offering:** Kognity is offering free access for all schools closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus. Contact them here.

Listenwise

- **What It Is:** Listenwise teaches students to be better listeners, using podcasts and comprehension questions and quizzes.
- **What They're Offering:** Any school closed due to the outbreak can get access to Listenwise Premium for free. Learn more here.

MusicFirst

- **What It Is:** This is the only online learning management system for teaching music at all age levels. Band practice might be off the table for now, but students can still work on theory, notation, sight-reading and more.
- **What They're Offering:** If your school is closed due to COVID-19/coronavirus, you can receive free access to the entire MusicFirst system for the duration. Find out more.

Nearpod

- **What It Is:** Choose from a wide range of prepared interactive lessons for all grade levels, or create your own if you can't find what you need. Assess students on the spot and get real-time feedback from them too.
- **What They're Offering:** Schools closed due to the outbreak can request free access to Nearpod. Here's how.

PBS Learning Media

- **What It Is:** This site uses curated PBS videos along with lesson plans, interactive materials, and more to cover lots of subjects in an engaging fashion.
- **What They're Offering:** PBS Learning Media is always free for teachers. Sign up here.

PenPal Schools

- **What It Is:** Schools that have already closed for weeks note that students quickly become lonely outside the classroom. PenPal Schools not only lets you engage your own students, but those from around the world, on a wide variety of subjects.
- **What They're Offering:** PenPal Schools is free. Learn how to sign up here.

Rozzy

- **What It Is:** Rozzy Learning has engaging lesson plans and other resources for science, social studies, math, and STEM for K-8th grade.
- **What They're Offering:** Free lessons for teachers during school closures. A specific list of lessons have been designated for virtual learning. Learn more.

Seterra

- **What It Is:** Seterra offers online geography quizzes. You can also create your own custom quizzes.
- **What They're Offering:** Seterra is free to use. Schools affected by COVID-19/coronavirus can get 6 months of Seterra bonus features for free. Find out how.

Slido for Education

- **What It Is:** This brand-new virtual classroom platform integrates PowerPoint, Zoom video webinars, and Slido quizzes into one streamlined package.
- **What They're Offering:** Slido is offering free access to its Advanced Education package for students and teachers until July 1, 2020. Contact them to find out more.

