



Burch Charter School of Excellence
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Dr. Jeff White, Chief School Administrator
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March 20, 2020

Dear Burch School Community,

Due to Governor's Murphy's Executive Order 104 on March 16, 2020, "In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, we must take aggressive and direct social distancing action to curtail non-essential activities in the state," **said Governor Murphy**. "In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, Governor Murphy's executive order directs:

- All gatherings of persons in the State of New Jersey shall be limited to 50 persons or fewer, with limited exceptions.
- All public, private, and parochial preschool programs, and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools, will be closed beginning on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and remain closed as long as the Order remains in effect.

I am providing you with an updated school calendar as of today's date. The 2019-2020 school calendar had 4 snow days built in to it, and Spring Break was scheduled from April 10, 2020 (Good Friday) through April 17, 2020. Since our school will be closed indefinitely now until released by Executive Order, we will have the following changes to the school calendar:

- Monday, March 16, 2020 (Counts as Snow Day 1)
- Tuesday, March 17, 2020 (Counts as Snow Day 2)
- Wednesday, March 18, 2020 (Count as Snow Day 3)
- Thursday, March 19, 2020 (Counts as Snow Day 4)
- Friday, March 20, 2020 (Counts as Good Friday)
- March 23, 2020 – March 27, 2020 (Counts as Spring Break)
- Monday, March 30, 2020 (Burch Distance Learning Plan will begin until otherwise changed by Governor Murphy).

Requirements to Implement a Public Health-Related School Closure (March 13, 2020)

In the event that a district or charter school, in collaboration and consultation with its local health agency, determines that it is in the best interests of students and staff to close individual schools or the entire district, the district or charter school may utilize home instruction to provide instructional services to enrolled students. The provision of home instruction services should continue to be guided by N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10.1 and the district's emergency closure school preparedness plan. Any day on which all students impacted by such a public health related closure have access to home instruction services provided consistent with the guidance in this memo will count as a day on which the board of education has provided public school facilities toward its compliance with the 180-day requirement in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. This flexibility to count a day on which public school facilities are closed toward the board of education's statutory 180-day requirement applies strictly to public health-related school closures as described in this memo and not to any other type of closure or other days on which public school facilities are not made available.

Thank you for patience and flexibility during these most challenging of times. We appreciate your support and cooperation as we work through the ever-changing landscape due to the Global Pandemic.

All my best,

Dr. Jeff White

Chief School Administrator