

# QACPS COVID-19 Updates and Continuity of Learning Plan

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# Purpose

- To communicate district plans and updates to support students, families, and employees during the extended school closure resulting from the COVID-19 global pandemic
- To communicate the major tenets of the QACPS Continuity of Learning Plan



# Global and National Context

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the daily lives of every child and family globally, nationally, and locally.



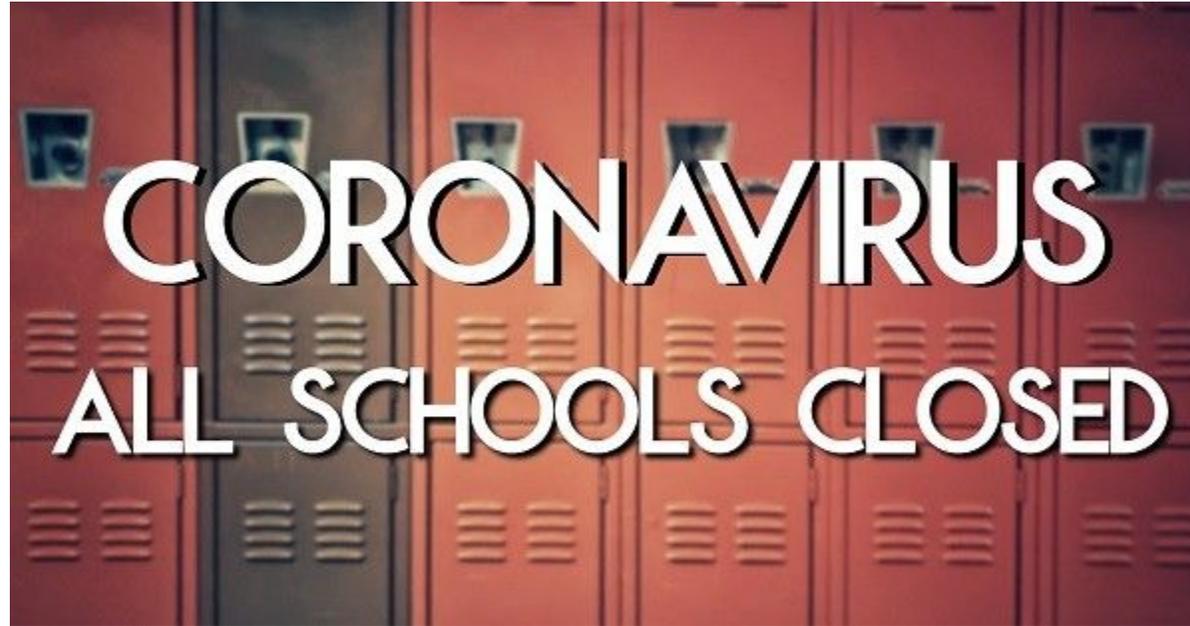
Source: (2020). [Center of Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)



Source: (2020). [Time Magazine](https://www.time.com).



# Local Context



**State Action 1:** All Maryland Public Schools Closed March 16-27, 2020

**State Action 2:** All Maryland Public Schools Closed March 30, 2020 to April 24, 2020



CORONAVIRUS COVID-19  
**UPDATES**



# COVID 19 - Communication



FREQUENT communication with parents; employees; volunteers; Maryland State Department of Education; District Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents & CFOs; Food Services; legislators; QAC Health Department; and QAC agency/department leaders via COVID 19 Alerting and Readiness Teams and the Emergency Operations Center.



# School Updates

- The first two weeks of learning at home began on April 1st.
- Learning packets and devices for 3rd & 4th graders have been distributed.
- Principals are communicating with employees and students.
- Teacher PD is occurring and well attended.
- Planning for the next set of learning packets is occurring.
- Counselors, paras, and support personnel are supporting student learning and/or connecting with families online regularly.
- Special educators are rescheduling IEP meetings that were missed due to the initial school closure and Individualized Distance Learning Plans are being developed to meet students' needs.
- Case management services and IEP meetings will continue through phone calls or video conferencing with families. Some changes in special education services may result in a determination that compensatory services will be owed.
- English Learner services are being addressed via learning packets and online to the extent possible.



# Finance & Payroll

- All finance staff continue to work to ensure major financial transactions are continuing without interruption. This includes:
  - Payroll, including leave and attendance modifications
  - Accounts Payable
  - Grant Accounting
  - Purchasing
- Highlights include:
  - Successful 4/3/2020 payroll cycle without delay
  - Vendors continue to get paid on established cycles
  - Accounting - special account codes are being developed, as needed, to track COVID-19 related expenses
  - Purchasing - Board of Education Legal Services Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued April 3, 2020



# Human Resources

- All Human Resources staff continue to work to ensure major Human Resources functions are not interrupted. This includes:
  - Time and Attendance and assisting with Payroll
  - Working collaboratively with MSDE for renewals of Teacher Certification
  - Completion of Retirement filings
  - Continue all VOE's for the purpose of personal financing i.e. loan refinancing
- Highlights include:
  - Virtual Interviewing of applicants for Teacher vacancies SY 2020/2021
  - Furlough Notifications via email and U.S. Postal Service, effective April 27, 2020
  - Implementation of the Voluntary Transfer Process, due May 1, 2020
  - Principal/Assistant Interviews tentatively scheduled for April 15-17, 2020
  - Continuity of FMLA and processing of [Unemployment Insurance](#) if eligible



# Operations

## Grab-n-Go Meal Distribution Sites

- 20,717 Meals Served; 13 locations, 39 volunteers
- Three QAC buses delivering food to six community sites and to one school site
- County Ride bus and personnel from the Senior Center distribute meals to two community sites
- Students do not need to be present
- Pick-up meals on Tuesdays and Fridays
- Backpack meals for the weekend are distributed on Fridays

## **Building Checks Daily**

## **Bus Contractor Pay**



# Continuity of Learning



# QACPS Local Response

**Continuity of Learning Plan Structure**



**Phase 1: Plan and Organize**



**Phase 2: Implement and Support**



**Phase 3: Evaluate and Adjust**



# Phase 1: Plan and Organize

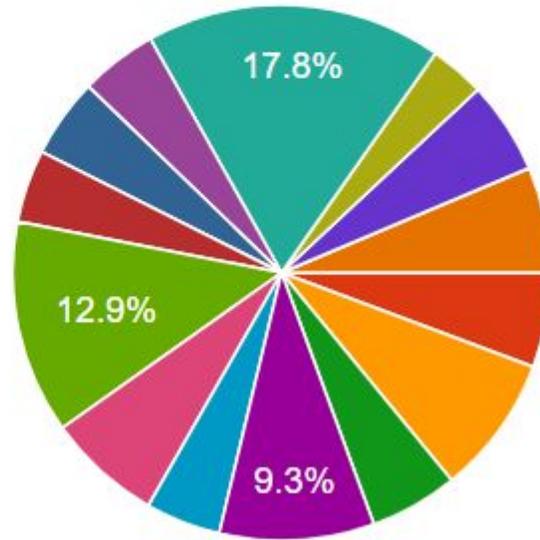
- Materials of instruction and resources (print and digital) were sent home including 1:1 device with students on March 13, 2020 prior to the beginning of the school closure period which began on March 16, 2020.
- [QACPS Suggested Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers for Supporting Learning During the School Closure Period](#) was sent home. This included both non digital and digital resources and instructional learning activities by content and grade band.
- Assessment conducted by Curriculum & Instruction supervisors to confirm that QACPS teachers have a variety of print and digital resources and lessons to support continuity of learning during the closure period. Two emerging areas for specialized resources to support learning emerge as potential concerns in both Performing Arts and Career and Technology Education.
- A district survey was administered to QACPS parents, students, and teachers in order to better assess the individual needs of families and employees regarding internet access and reliability.



# QACPS Parent and Student Survey Results

School

752 responses



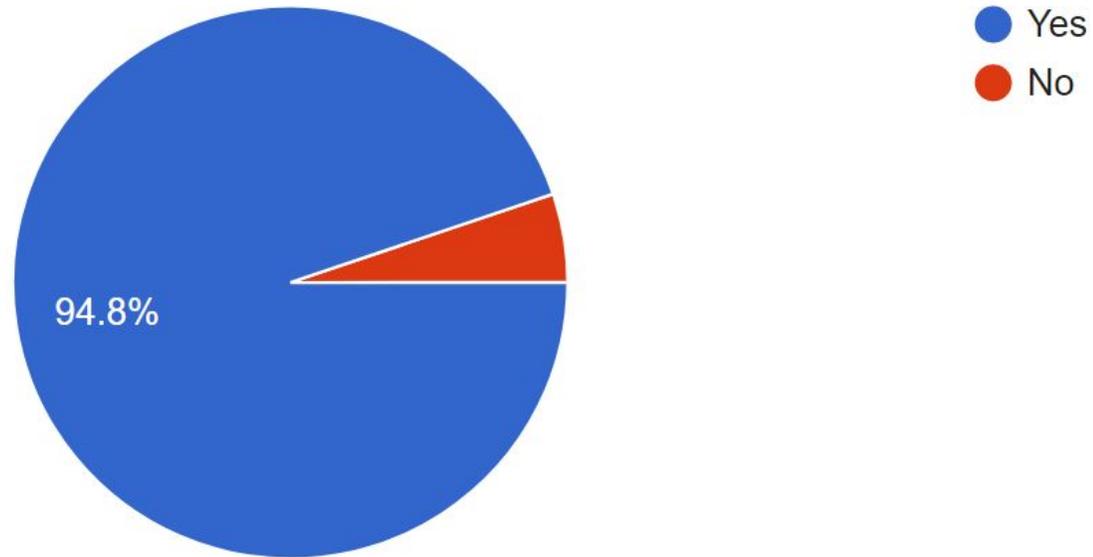
- Arise Academy
- Bayside Elementary School
- Centreville Elementary School
- Church Hill Elementary School
- Centreville Middle School
- Grasonville Elementary School
- Kennard Elementary School
- Kent Island High School
- Kent Island Elementary School
- Matapeake Elementary School
- Matapeake Middle School
- Queen Anne's County High School
- Sudlersville Elementary School
- Sudlersville Middle School
- Stevensville Middle School



# QACPS Parent and Student Survey Results

Is Internet service currently available at your home?

752 responses



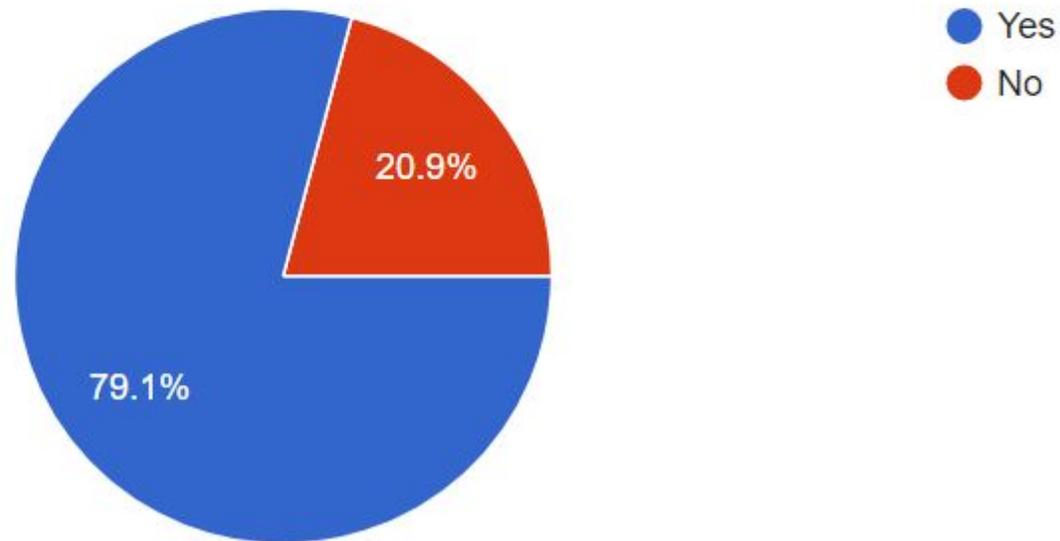
|           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| Yes (713) | 94.8.% |
| No (39)   | 5.2%   |



# QACPS Parent and Student Survey Results

If you do have internet access is it reliable?

742 responses



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Yes (587) | 79.1% |
| No (155)  | 20.9% |



# Internet Access Options

## 1. Hardwire Cabling

- [Atlantic Broadband Internet Assist](#)

## 2. Wireless Broadband

- [Delaware Wifi](#)
- [BridgeMAXX](#)

## 3. Mobile Hotspot Tethering

- [The Access Program from AT&T](#)
- [Verizon Wireless](#)
- [T-Mobile](#)

## 4. QACPS Mobile Hotspots

- QACPS will purchase 100 mobile hotspot devices to support families and employees in need of internet access. Estimated cost: \$12,400 for devices and two months of data.

## 5. QACPS School Building Outdoor Wireless Access Kits

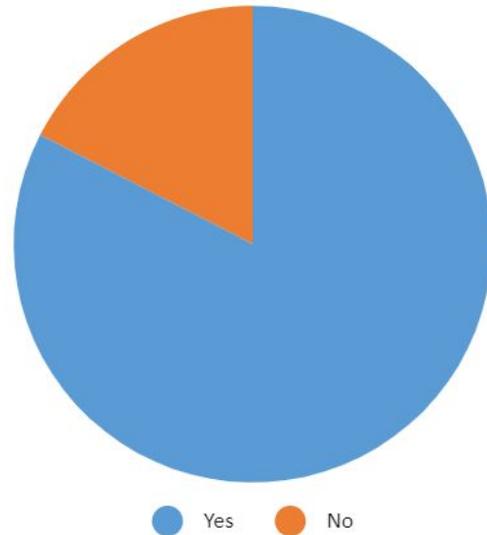
- QACPS will begin phase one of installing school building outdoor wireless internet access kits to include (CHES, SES, SMS and GES). Estimated cost: \$9,200 for four school sites.



# QACPS Teacher Survey Results

- Administered March 20 - 23, 2020 to all teaching staff
- Contained 11 questions
- 551 responses received

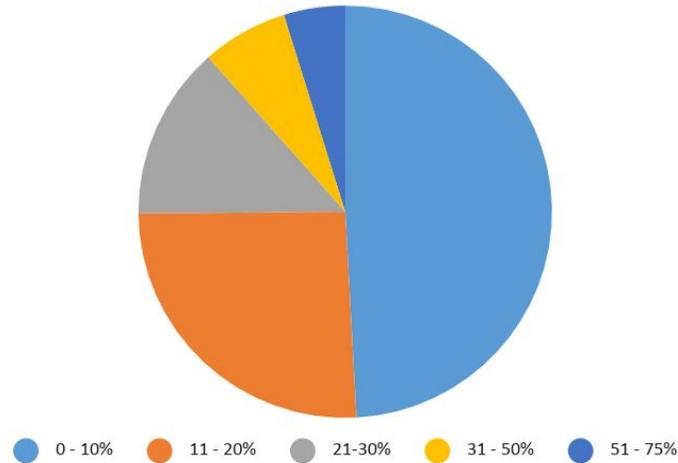
Have you reached out to families and students to share resources and/or independent work to complete at home?



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Yes (455) | 82.6% |
| No (96)   | 17.4% |

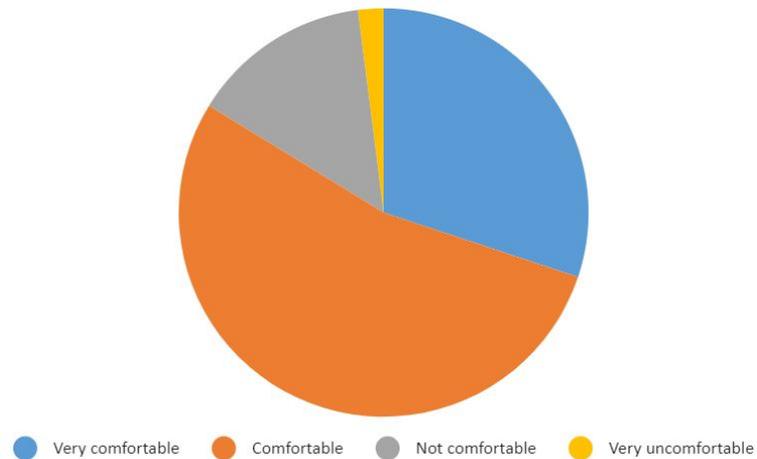


Please estimate the percentage of your students that DO NOT have access to the internet.



|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| 0-10% (256)  | 49.1% |
| 11-20% (134) | 25.7% |
| 21-30% (71)  | 13.6% |
| 31-50% (35)  | 6.7%  |
| 51-75% (25)  | 4.8%  |

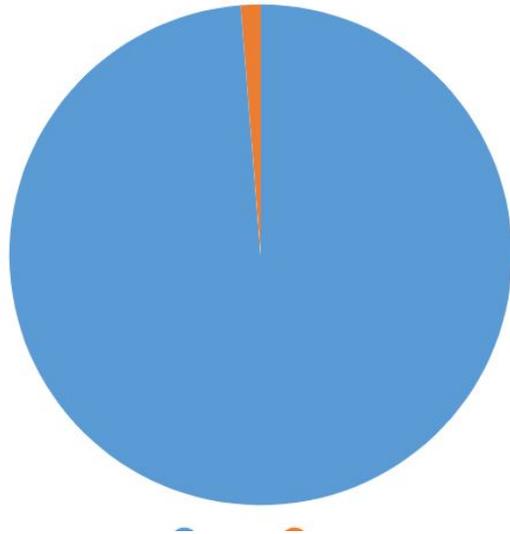
How comfortable are you in delivering resources to your students via online resources?



|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Very Comfortable (165)  | 30.1% |
| Comfortable (294)       | 53.6% |
| Not Comfortable (78)    | 14.2% |
| Very Uncomfortable (11) | 2%    |

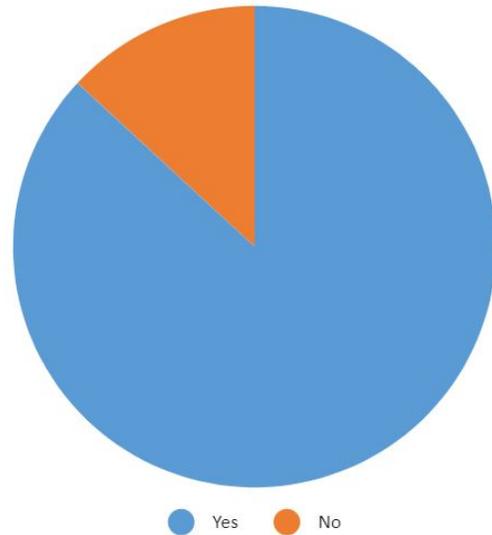


Do you have access to the internet at your home?



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Yes (543) | 98.7% |
| No (7)    | 1.3%  |

If you do have access to the internet at your home is it reliable?



|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| Yes (471) | 86.9% |
| No (71)   | 13.1% |



# Teacher Survey Results - Additional Resources and Support

- Access to chromebooks for Grades 3 and 4
- More online resources (i.e. google meet and hangouts, zoom, etc.)
- Professional development/training for teachers to use digital resources such as Google Classroom
- Ability to provide paper materials to students
- Video conferencing to allow teacher and student communication
- Access to classroom to gather materials
- Access to internet for those who need it
- Further guidance and expectations for teachers



# Phase 2: Implement and Support

- Administrators and supervisors collaborate virtually to establish teacher expectations, teacher resources, and professional development.
- [\*QACPS Classroom Teacher Expectations for Working during the COVID-19 Extended School Learning Closure Period\*](#) was shared with administrators and all instructional staff and focuses on three guiding principles: (1) Student-centered; (2) Design Learning for Equity and Access; and (3) Formative Assessment of Student Learning.
- Continuity of Learning Teacher Planning Calendars (Example: [MMS](#))
- [\*QACPS Continuity of Learning Plan and FAQ\*](#) was shared with parents, caregivers, and employees.



# State Assessment and Accountability

- On March 25, 2020, the Maryland State Department of Education received approval from the U.S. Department of Education for the waiver request for *Flexibility for States on ESEA Assessment and Accountability Requirements*.
- **Maryland statewide assessments have been waived for 2019-20.**



# College Board-SAT and Advanced Placement (AP) Testing

- Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19), the College Board is unable to provide the remaining spring SAT School Day administrations.
- **The April SAT School Day administrations on April 14th and 28th have been canceled** until further notice.
- AP exams will be given from [May 11-22 \(make ups June 1-5\)](#).
- Students will be able to take online Advanced Placement (AP) exams at home. The secure 45 minute online exams will include topics and skills most AP teachers and students have already covered in class by early March.
- [Additional Information and Resources about AP Exams](#)



# Phase 3: Evaluate and Adjust

- Monitor progress of the [Continuity of Learning Plan](#) and make adjustments or enhance as necessary for maximum efficiency and effectiveness.
- Monitor feedback from stakeholder groups and evaluate information in order to make adjustments throughout the extended closure period.
- Begin planning for continued school closure and recovery programs.
- Draw conclusions and adjust implementation strategies and support structures as needed.



# What We Don't Know Yet

- Changes to graduation requirements: credits, CTE certifications, service learning hours, etc. - Seeking waivers from MSDE
- Grades for 4th marking period/2nd semester
- Senior activities and graduations
- Adjusting the school calendar
- Adjusting the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for non-renewals of certificated employees [COMAR 13A.07.02.01]
- Adjusting the mandate for annual evaluations and observations of teachers [COMAR 13A.07.04.02]
- Adjusting the timelines for renewing teaching certificates [COMAR 13A.12.01.11]



# QUESTIONS?

