



March 2020

Update on State Assessments

Earlier this month, building principals sent out information listing dates and grade levels for the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) and the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), our required annual state assessments. Due to the recent unforeseen school closures, we will be revising these dates for later in the school year per guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education. **Parents can be assured that no state assessments will be given during the week we return to school and parents will be notified regarding new dates.**

E Learning

By now, the majority of students and/or families have been on the [District 118 E Learning page](#). I want to commend our teachers, students, and parents for working together to coordinate extended learning opportunities during this unprecedented time away from school.

Per the recommendation of the Illinois State Superintendent, District 118 is offering learning opportunities via E Learning for students and families while children are at home. Even though the state has declared these days as an “Act of God” and has asked districts not to collect grades during this time, it is recommended that your children complete educational activities each school day to help minimize disruption to each child's academic progress caused by emergency school closures and to make these days as educationally productive and engaging as possible. However, with that being said, it is up to parents to decide if they want their children to participate in the E Learning process during these days.

According to the National Association of School Psychologists, one of the ways parents can help their children get through this stressful situation is by establishing routines to the extent possible. Please know that we are here to help. Carving out a block of time each school closure day for educational activities will not only keep your child's mind sharp, but it can also help to reduce the worry some children may feel during these uncertain times. [Click here](#) to learn more about helping your child understand COVID-19.

A list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) has been provided on the E Learning webpage to help parents navigate through the process. If you have any questions pertaining to the process, please contact your child's building principal. Most importantly, please do not let school become a source of frustration or stress for your family during these already stressful times.

We thank you for your continued patience and support as we partner to keep our community as safe.