

- [Calendar](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [A-Z Guide](#)

- [Home](#)

[OKLAHOMA](#)
[STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION](#)
[STATE SUPERINTENDENT JOY HOFMEISTER](#)

 [Visit OK.gov](#)

Search Site

GO

[PrevNext](#)

▼ [About](#)

- [State Superintendent](#)
- [State Education Boards](#)
- [State School Directories](#)
- [Legal Services](#)
- [Staff Directory](#)
- [Careers at SDE](#)
- [Education Events](#)

▼ [Services](#)

- [Academic Standards](#)
- [Accountability](#)
- [Accreditation](#)
- ▼ [Assessment](#)
 - [Diverse Learners](#)
- [Child Nutrition](#)
- [Educator Effectiveness](#)
- [Education Technology](#)
- [Federal Programs](#)
- [Indian Education](#)
- [Instruction](#)
- [Safe and Healthy Schools](#)
- [School Personnel Records](#)
- [School Support & Improvement](#)
- [Special Education](#)
- [SoonerStart](#)
- [Student Support](#)
- [Teacher Certification](#)

▼ [News & Blogs](#)

- [ED Talks](#)
- [Elevate](#)
- [Engage Teachers](#)
- [Media Room](#)
- [ShapED My Life](#)
- [Teacher of the Year Blog](#)

▼ [Resources](#)

- [Bid Solicitations](#)
- [Civil Rights](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- [Grants and Nominations](#)
- [Legislative Resources](#)
- [Oklahoma Education Single Sign-On](#)
- [Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame](#)
- [Oklahoma Public Schools Fast Facts](#)
- [Open Records Request](#)
- [Research](#)
- [School Finance](#)
- ▶ [SDE Finances](#)
- [Student Information](#)
- [Student Transportation](#)
- [Website A-Z Guide](#)
- [Public Records](#)

[Home](#) / Emergency State Board meeting expected to close schools until April 6



Many OSDE staff members are working remotely to help contain the spread of COVID-19. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any [staff or department](#). We will respond to your call or email as soon as possible.

Emergency State Board meeting expected to close schools until April 6

Posted by Jordan.LaMons on Mon, 03/16/2020 - 1:05pm

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

 Press Release State Seal

Steffie Corcoran
Director of Communications
(405) 522-5324, c: (405) 312-9558
steffie.corcoran@sde.ok.gov

Carrie Burkhardt
Assistant Director of Communications
(405) 521-3371, c: (405) 760-7881
carrie.burkhardt@sde.ok.gov

Erin Corbin
Communications Specialist
(405) 521-3375
erin.corbin@sde.ok.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Emergency State Board meeting expected to close schools until April 6

OKLAHOMA CITY (March 16, 2020) – State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister has called an emergency meeting of the State Board of Education for 4 p.m. today to authorize the closure of all Oklahoma schools beginning March 17 and lasting until April 6. Hofmeister said the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) will closely monitor the COVID-19 situation with state health experts to determine if it will be necessary to extend the closure.

“Nothing is more important than the safety and well-being of Oklahomans,” Hofmeister said. “It is critical that we do everything in our power to protect the health of our kids,

their families, educators and all vulnerable populations. That need outweighs everything else. The OSDE has been working around the clock, and will continue to do so, to ease the burden of schools during this challenging time.”

“This decision is not made lightly, but it is the right thing to do based on current guidance from the CDC,” said Governor Kevin Stitt. “This closure will allow us time to further understand how COVID-19 is affecting Oklahoma and give students and staff a period of time to be protected from further community spread of the virus. We know closing schools has a significant impact on families, and we are committed to doing what we can to lessen that impact as we work to prioritize the health and safety of all Oklahomans.”

The recommended board action today will solely address the school closures. The OSDE is already working to ensure school closure does not negatively impact schools and school employees, including issuing guidance on state assessments, school accountability and student attendance.

This weekend, the OSDE received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on two requested waivers allowing meal service to continue during school closures. Meals will be available at no cost to low-income children and are not required to be served in a group setting to avoid possible exposure to COVID-19.

###

[Back to Top](#)

Share This Page!

Last updated on March 16, 2020

[About OK.gov](#) | [OK.gov Policies](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)

© The State of Oklahoma

Follow SDE on:

 [Twitter](#)  [Facebook](#)