

Autism Support of West Shore

A place where everyone fits



March 14, 2020

Volume 2 / Issue 4

Special Edition

What now?

Today we woke up to a new reality. Our children will be home from school for at least the next three weeks, the stores are running out of lots of things (especially toilet paper), we're told to stay home, work from home, and don't go into large crowds. The news seems to be more frightening than usual. In keeping with the recommendations of the Michigan Health Department we are canceling several events with plans to reschedule. This is a very fluid time and as decisions are being made at the state and local levels, we at ASWS will always put our families' health and safety first. Please take a minute to check the cancellation/reschedule of upcoming events.

What are we to do? First take care of yourself and your family. Much like summer, establishing an "off school routine" will help our children and probably the family as a whole. Start the morning with chores, (make your bed, pick out your clothes), enjoy some reading or academic time and unexpected fun time. If you or a family you know of receive free or reduced lunch at school check out the list below of school programs offering food assistance. If a work shut down is creating financial challenges talk to your local bank about your situation. Most are sending out emails about their willingness to work with families through this time. As always, we are available via email, please bear with us if the response is not immediate, we are taking care of our families too.

West Michigan school districts provide food during unprecedented closure

https://www.fox17online.com/news/local-news/michigan/food-being-provided-by-school-districts-across-west-michigan-during-unprecedented-closure?fbclid=IwAR2h1ZnahRFa_lapB87kunf_Wm2NweMP_BE6EOosvc3-s-oVMG0bE6p6wl

By: Chris Bovia

HOLLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

When: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m.

Where: <https://www.hollandpublicschools.org/our-district/superintendents-office/important->

messagesupdates/?fbclid=IwAR1kXoP4bk0TYXALIDSKED8j37LEvoQyM3E_ywhcUMtf3HTT1eVpS7MyZpU for details on locations.

Meals will be provided for children under 18. Parents/guardians may pick up food for their children.

GRAND HAVEN AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Please see their [COVID-19 Webpage https://www.ghaps.org/our-district/coronavirus-updates/?fbclid=IwAR0fOaXprXRYfpEM_TOmmlb4Nxsj3W6Yo39zvIAIB_km8qV1WJJ4g50AzJ4](https://www.ghaps.org/our-district/coronavirus-updates/?fbclid=IwAR0fOaXprXRYfpEM_TOmmlb4Nxsj3W6Yo39zvIAIB_km8qV1WJJ4g50AzJ4) for the latest information about the district during the closure.

KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

When: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 3/16-4/3

Where: Various locations [listed here](#)

https://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/ExploreKPS/DistrictNews/TabId/105/ArtMID/1056/ArticleID/397/KPS-Sets-Up-Emergency-Food-Services.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1uFufuFaMjmlH-gaTB_aNcsneWgWnYwMC2KwP4Evj-xqocGEET_3rBd_o

An emergency food distribution network has been set up at 20 schools across 4 communities. Bagged breakfasts and lunches will be available.

OTSEGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A similar program to their summer food program will be run during the closure starting 3/16 for anyone 18 or younger, “regardless of free/reduced-lunch status”.

They expect a schedule to be posted [here https://www.otsegops.org/apps/pages/COVID19](https://www.otsegops.org/apps/pages/COVID19) Sunday, 3/15.

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS

Two days-worth of breakfasts and lunches will be delivered to school-aged children at the regular bus stops.

When: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during the closure. Deliveries will be made to the first stop at 11:30 a.m.

The school district asks for patience as there are 42 stops in the community and they will be making door-to-door stops for students with special needs. Full information including a list of the stops can be found [here](#)

https://www.facebook.com/MuskegonHeightsTigers/posts/2926008234116556?_tn=-R

ALLEGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The school district is currently working on creating a plan. The high school will be open on 3/17 and 3/19 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. to collect non-perishable foods that will be delivered to local food pantries. More information can be found [here](#)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1keUmzz7rwhgqgDFcc8XU7rrabqWo4Leo/view?fbclid=IwAR2HEssL3iAahTt2ThIDPBk9XIY8bCG20rY1ba1cjZER194sPZ8a3cTxHHk>

PLAINWELL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Cold breakfast and lunch for all students will be available Monday-Friday. Locations are still being determined, but pick-up will begin 3/17. Announcements of the times and locations will be sent to families on Monday 3/16.

MUSKEGON PUBLIC SCHOOL

Buses will be making daily drop-offs of breakfast and lunch. Special drop-off sites are being made for students who normally walk to school. See the school’s [Facebook or website](#)

https://www.facebook.com/MPSK12/posts/2798591133532830?_tn=-R

for more details about drop-off locations and times.

IONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Breakfast and lunch for children up to 18 years-old will be provided starting 3/16 through 4/3.

Where: Boyce, Emerson, and Twin Rivers Elementary Schools and Ionia High School.

When: Weekdays 10 a.m. – noon.

PORTLAND

A plan is being developed to provide free lunch during the shutdown. Keep checking the [school website](#) for information and updates.

Don't see your school system in this list? Check out your school's website.

Kids Food Basket

At Kids' Food Basket our number one priority is the safety and health of our staff, volunteers, students and families. We are committed to nourishing our community and do not plan to shut down services as long as it is safe and responsible to continue to operate. We appreciate our community rallying around and supporting our communities' children, and together we will work to continue to ensure our children are well-nourished, through whatever crisis our community faces. <https://www.kidsfoodbasket.org/>

Event Notifications

Sensory Friendly Performances at Wharton Center

March 15, 2020

1:30 Cancelled for this date it will be reschedule

Dog Man the Musical (3 tickets remaining you must contact info@asws.org for tickets)

A hilarious new musical based on *The New York Times* #1 bestselling series from Dav Pilkey featuring the crime-biting canine who is part dog, part man and ALL HERO! He's ready to take on Petey the Cat, the felonious feline who's always hacking up harebrained schemes. Songs for the show by Kevin Del Aguila, a New York Outer Critics Circle Award nominee for *Altar Boyz*, and Brad Alexander, an Emmy winner for *Peg + Cat*

Recommended for ages 6-11.

Here is the message from MSU

Dear *Dog Man The Musical* ticket holder,

We regret to inform you that the *Dog Man The Musical* performance scheduled for Sunday, March 15, 2020 **have been postponed and will not take place as scheduled.** We are currently working on determining dates to reschedule these performances.

If you have any questions, please call the Ticket Office at 517.432.2000 or 1.800.WHARTON.

For the latest information from Michigan State University regarding COVID-19 visit

<https://msu.edu/coronavirus/>

Meet and Greet Northside - Cancelled for this date it will be reschedule

March 17, 2020

6:30 – 8:30pm

Mancinos

13040 US-31, Grand Haven

Access Expo – Cancelled for this date it will be reschedule

March 18, 2020

4-6 pm

Grand Haven Community Center

Resources

Best Indoor Activities for Kids 50 Fun Things to Do

[https://www.facebook.com/helloWonderful/?_tn=kCH-R&eid=ARDFIPv-10cNhsxavfDqFkT63dle8anCoiju1b3DVuw3TglinDuX5s3f9eydJGajHOOZgRL4Ttcg4m&hc_ref=ARSVZ_rtRd3rbfFsYVOpNsPXrT29C1xT7HiHpO2tGmaO_dZPExrENMnrn7egaGnpZPo&fref=nf&__xts__\[0\]=68.ARCRIU-UXnHiraEOS3m_DaQPPJXP2XncaW38PBQwvj4I2sxlLuY1iZYnOn-UZZPMpK1Km-RDV-ojK9cu6Pq8t6oZljRqonnH2naYNfUDmWJBQFGisVdtmxQRCabvYAbAjDxifqhElMyDHsQhOvOs2Rdz5PrmVizjJONrddJiRvAYwNRzNuyyAfTIMBbFghwRXQEDMGx0sL1qp1hf3Wpm5Ku16iGZ3RNu0VjO9JjM4TFiT73DHthCsKJVQduBbYaqwWAILYcfVVGQATBCsfsCOefTSj8XN2Tfh1bJ_jfPnfKb-CHW7kvQ03eWFHtL9RUqi_TWMD2NiDeiTQ7vOGgavPF06Xn3Cq-igvzUKPQki4L3jgA9IBDIkIcf16aMIF0kNn2A](https://www.facebook.com/helloWonderful/?_tn=kCH-R&eid=ARDFIPv-10cNhsxavfDqFkT63dle8anCoiju1b3DVuw3TglinDuX5s3f9eydJGajHOOZgRL4Ttcg4m&hc_ref=ARSVZ_rtRd3rbfFsYVOpNsPXrT29C1xT7HiHpO2tGmaO_dZPExrENMnrn7egaGnpZPo&fref=nf&__xts__[0]=68.ARCRIU-UXnHiraEOS3m_DaQPPJXP2XncaW38PBQwvj4I2sxlLuY1iZYnOn-UZZPMpK1Km-RDV-ojK9cu6Pq8t6oZljRqonnH2naYNfUDmWJBQFGisVdtmxQRCabvYAbAjDxifqhElMyDHsQhOvOs2Rdz5PrmVizjJONrddJiRvAYwNRzNuyyAfTIMBbFghwRXQEDMGx0sL1qp1hf3Wpm5Ku16iGZ3RNu0VjO9JjM4TFiT73DHthCsKJVQduBbYaqwWAILYcfVVGQATBCsfsCOefTSj8XN2Tfh1bJ_jfPnfKb-CHW7kvQ03eWFHtL9RUqi_TWMD2NiDeiTQ7vOGgavPF06Xn3Cq-igvzUKPQki4L3jgA9IBDIkIcf16aMIF0kNn2A)

For those home with children when schools are closed...how about having your kids write notes, color pictures and mail them to local nursing homes? The elderly in these homes aren't allowed visitors right now. Letters or treat packages to our US service men and women is another great idea!

Autism Internet Modules

autisminternetmodules.org

Explore Modules Covering a Variety of Topics. **AIM** is designed to provide high-quality information and professional development for anyone who supports, instructs, works with, or lives with someone with autism.

Here's the Entire List of Education Companies Offering Free Subscriptions Due to School Closings

<https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/135609/list-of-education-companies-offering-free-subscriptions/?fbclid=IwAR0HVyZ0xfwgMTDdgHXc0qBE6Twbzoz9GT9eaV7WIDPOJbyTHtbx1BhBtU>

Stuck at Home? These 12 Famous Museums Offer Virtual Tours You Can Take on Your Couch

<https://people.com/travel/stuck-at-home-these-12-famous-museums-offer-virtual-tours-you-can-take-on-your-couch/?fbclid=IwAR3t-keK6XR5BSsgNX5AzE4ghQrSS8XpUo4jkvs9B7CzARMjqI9G5PDTHRY>

Attached you will find information about talking to children about Covid 19.

Non-screen activities you can do at home

Pobble

25 ideas!

What can you do when there's no school and you're stuck at home? Here are 25 fun ideas to choose from.



1 How many different words can you make from the letters in this sentence, below? Grab a pencil and paper and write a list!

'Learning from home is fun'

2 Thank a community hero. Think of someone that helps you in some way and write a short letter to thank them.

Thanks!

3 Get building! You could build a Lego model, a tower of playing cards or something else!



4 Can you create your own secret code? You could use letters, numbers, pictures or something else! Can you get someone else to try and crack it?

5 Start a nature diary. Look out of the window each day and keep note of what you see. Birds, flowers, changes in the weather, what else?

6 Hold a photo session. Use a camera or a mobile phone to take some snaps. What will you photograph? Your pets or toys perhaps?

7 Build a reading den. Find somewhere cosy, snuggle up and read your favourite book!



8 Use an old sock to create a puppet. Can you put on a puppet show for someone?



9 Make a list of all the electrical items in each room of your home. Can you come up with any ideas to use less electricity?

10 Design and make a homemade board game and play it with your family.



11 Do something kind for someone. Can you pay them a compliment, make them something or help them with a task?



12 Can you create a story bag? Find a bag and collect items to go in it that relate to a well known story. If you can't find an item, you could draw a picture to include.

13 List making! Write a list of things that make you happy, things you're grateful for or things you are good at.



14 Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the garden. How fast can you complete it?



15 Can you invent something new? Perhaps a gadget or something to help people? Draw a picture or write a description.



16 Keep moving! Make up a dance routine to your favourite song.



17 Write a play script. Can you act it out to other people?



18 Read out loud to someone. Remember to read with expression.



19 Write a song or rap about your favourite subject.



20 Get sketching! Find a photograph or picture of a person, place or object and sketch it.



21 Junk modelling! Collect and recycle materials such as yoghurt pots, toilet rolls and boxes and see what you can create with them.

22 Draw a map of your local area and highlight interesting landmarks.



23 Write a postcard to your teacher. Can you tell them what you like most about their class?

24 Draw a view. Look out of your window and draw what you see.



25 Get reading! What would you most like to learn about? Can you find out more about it in books? Can you find a new hobby?



Dear Families and Caregivers,

We know that missing school isn't easy for your kids—or for you. But we also know that there are simple ways to turn unexpected time at home into exciting opportunities for your students to learn, think, and grow.

That is why we've created Scholastic's Learn at Home website. This free resource provides your children with 20* days of exciting articles and stories, videos, and fun learning challenges. Children can complete them anytime, in any order. They can work on their own or together with you and your family.

www.scholastic.com/learnathome

Our active learning journeys are available on any device and will provide your child with up to three hours' worth of exciting learning experiences per day. They can go on virtual field trips, meet best-selling authors, or dig deep into a topic they love.

We hope that you and your children stay safe and healthy, and wish you the best of luck during this stressful time.

With best wishes from all of us at Scholastic,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lauren Tarshis".

Lauren Tarshis
Sr. VP, Editor in Chief & Publisher
Scholastic Classroom Magazines

If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to me at ltarshis@scholastic.com.



*The site will be updated weekly until all 20 days of content is available.

Message from the Board,

Make the best of this time and we'll see you soon.

ASWS Board of Directors

sun-gazing.com
INFINITY

BREAKING:

GOING OUTDOORS NOT CANCELLED

MUSIC NOT CANCELLED

FAMILY NOT CANCELLED

READING NOT CANCELLED

FRIENDS NOT CANCELLED

SINGING NOT CANCELLED

LAUGHING NOT CANCELLED

HOPE NOT CANCELLED

LET'S EMBRACE WHAT WE HAVE