

News Release

Contact: Cindy Ball cball@rockdale.k12.ga.us For Immediate Release March 17, 2020

RCPS COVID-19 CLOSURE EXTENDED

Conyers, Ga. – Rockdale County Public Schools (RCPS) Superintendent Dr. Terry Oatts announced RCPS schools and offices will remain closed until after Spring Break and will plan to reopen April 13, 2020. Independent Learning Day (ILD) protocols and Be Bright Eat Right Rockdale (BBERR) meal delivery routes will continue through April 3, 2020. Spring Break will be April 6-10, 2020.

Dr. Oatts detailed the decision in a message for staff, parents, students, and the community: "I am following up to notify you of additional determinations I've made regarding our district's school closure. Yesterday, Governor Kemp's mandated closure of all Georgia school districts resulted in the extension of our district's school closure through Tuesday, March 31st. After careful consultation and deliberation, I've decided to extend our school closure through the remainder of the week of March 30th through April 3rd.

"Consequently, RCPS will be closed through our scheduled Spring Break of April 6th through April 10th. At present, RCPS is tentatively slated to resume normal school operations on Monday, April 13, 2020. Please know that I do not make such decisions lightly; however, our staff's, students', and community's safety and well-being are our top priorities during this unprecedented public health crisis. I would remind you that COVID-19 continues to infiltrate our state disproportionately in metropolitan Atlanta. We will remain vigilant in our COVID-19 preparedness as this virus inevitably escalates.

"I wish to personally commend our teachers, staff, administrators, parents and community for the tremendous commitment, dedication, creativity and professionalism shown during these past few weeks. Notwithstanding this unprecedented public health crisis, we will continue to pursue world-class results for our students."

Please check <u>www.rockdaleschools.org/COVID19</u> for updates and information on meal delivery routes, Independent Learning Day protocols, and more.

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