

# Madison Board of Education

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Mr. John Thomas, Acting Superintendent  
Robin L. Klenk, Treasurer

1379 Grace Street • Mansfield, Ohio 44905  
Phone (419) 589-2600

Dear Madison Families,

During this difficult time, Madison Local School is honoring its commitment to a safe and supportive education for our students. On Monday, March 16, teachers will be talking with their students on how they will be continuing instruction and assignments over the next few weeks.

Because much of our curriculum can be delivered online, families needing a technology device may fill out a request form and return it to the office. The form may also be completed on the district website. Chromebooks can be signed out by parents for use by students at home during this shift in instruction from school to home. The initial deadline to request a Chromebook is March 17 at midnight.

Some curriculum is coming home today with your child. If your child was absent today, March 16, all instructional materials and assignments must be picked up at your child's building by Friday, March 20. No paper copies of completed work will be returned to buildings. Please follow directions from your child's teacher regarding the turn in process. Teacher email addresses can be found on the district website.

At this time, all extra-curricular programs including sports have been stopped. We hope that this shutdown is only temporary, but will keep you informed regarding the status of these important student activities.

We have added a new section on the district website to provide you with information regarding the coronavirus. We will be adding information to this area on a regular basis as we receive additional information. Please review these materials and follow the recommendations for dealing with this health crisis.  
<https://www.mlsc.net/COVID-19Updates.aspx>

Guidelines for managing this situation are changing and being updated rapidly. At this time, the daycare and preschool programs at Jesse Beer remain open. We anticipate that this will change, so parents using this center should begin to make plans to use other services. On Sunday, the governor stated in an interview that

schools would likely not reopen at the end of this three weeks. Parents are encouraged to make plans for this possibility.

Our primary concern is for the health and safety of the students, teachers and staff. In addition to these concerns, we want your child's learning experience to be exciting and effective. As already discussed in a paragraph above, many of our teachers will be conducting instruction using computers and the internet. If you need a computer at your home, contact your child's school to sign out a Chromebook. Some internet providers have offered to provide internet and Wi-Fi services for 60 days during this covid-19 event for free. These internet service providers are:

Spectrum

Comcast

Sincerely,

John Thomas,  
Acting Superintendent

# Charter Offers Free Broadband to Households With Students Amid Coronavirus Epidemic



CREDIT: Neil Godwin/Future/Shutterstock

Cable giant [Charter Communications](#) will provide free broadband for two months to households with students, as a number of U.S. schools are shutting down because of concerns about the [coronavirus](#) (COVID-19) pandemic.

**Starting next Monday (March 16), Charter will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students — which do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription — at any service level up to 100 megabits per second.**

The move follows [Comcast's announcement that it would extend free broadband](#) to low-income families, also for a 60-day period, starting next week, and will boost speeds of the service tier (regularly \$9.95 per month).

**To enroll in Charter's free-broadband program, eligible consumers must call (844) 488-8395. The company said it will waive installation fees for new student households. Charter said it will partner with school districts "to ensure local communities are aware of these tools to help students learn remotely." In addition, the operator will open its Wi-Fi hotspots across its footprint for public use, free of charge.**

For eligible low-income households without school-age children, Charter continues to offer [Spectrum Internet Assist](#), a low-cost broadband program that provides speeds of up to 30 Mbps.

“As the country works collaboratively to contain this pandemic, broadband internet access will be increasingly essential to ensuring that people across the country are able to learn and work remotely, that businesses can continue to serve customers, and that Americans stay connected and engaged with family and friends,” Charter said in a statement.

Charter has about 29 million customers across a 41-state footprint. The cable operator noted that it does not impose data caps or usage surcharges on broadband service.

