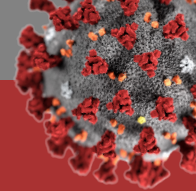


CORONAVIRUS

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: What does the recent school closures mean for AEA and its services?

A: There will be no disruption in service to Association members throughout the duration of the school closure time period. Staff will be available during working hours to communicate with members as usual. In order to take every safety precaution, our physical office is currently closed. All AEA staff has moved to remote work environments until March 30, 2020.

Q: Is every school employee required to report to work during Alabama's school closure time-period?

A: Effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020, at the close of business, all public schools in the state of Alabama will close until April 6, 2020.

Q: Will school employees be paid during the state-mandated school shutdown?

A: All full-time school personnel should continue to receive payroll checks as normal during the closure period.

Q: Can teachers be required to make student packets or conduct remote learning?

A: Teachers are not required to make student packets or conduct remote learning during the school closure. Per Dr. Eric Mackey, Alabama State Superintendent of Education, there will be no mandated instruction, grading, or other academic functions during this time.

Q: Will school employees be required to make up days?

A: School employees will not be required to make up days.

Q: Are Education Support Professionals (ESPs) required to work during the school closure?

A: Some school districts may ask some (or all) support staff to work during the closure in order to assist with food service to students and other responsibilities that may be affected by the school closure. You should check with your local UniServ Director for any policies in place to deal with such an occurrence.

Q: What is AEA's position regarding school districts asking school employees to report to work during the current school closure period?

A: AEA urges local superintendents and school board members to make informed decisions during this time of evolving information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The reason schools are closed is to limit the spread of the virus. The sooner people can get home and stay, the less likely they are to be exposed or carry the virus. Requiring educators to come into possibly contaminated schools could create considerable liabilities for school districts.

Q: Will I be able to receive paid leave if I test positive for COVID-19?

A: Per Dr. Mackey, any school employee who tests positive or have family members who test positive for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) will receive administrative leave with pay.

