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| **North Carolina PTA Update for COVID-19 (Coronavirus)** Raleigh, NC (March 12, 2020): In response to the coronavirus COVID-19, Governor Roy Cooper issued an executive order declaring a state of emergency. The worldwide outbreak of illness caused by coronavirus, which includes cases in North Carolina, has created concerns among families regarding potential risks their children may face at school. Fortunately, school districts across the state are developing important information, valuable resources and procedures for how schools should handle the coronavirus, and are informing and educating school communities about how to respond in the event that students or families are forced to confront the disease directly. North Carolina Parent Teacher Association (NCPTA) encourages councils, local unit PTAs and families to work closely with their school officials to learn about preventative measures being implemented in their local communities. NCPTA is North Carolina’s oldest and largest volunteer organization advocating for the education, health, safety, and success of all children and youth while building strong families and communities. The health, safety, and well-being of the children and their families across North Carolina is our main priority, so we have provided the following valuable resources to help parents stay informed:* [Resources on how parents may talk to their children in various languages](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nasponline.org%2Fresources-and-publications%2Fresources-and-podcasts%2Fschool-climate-safety-and-crisis%2Fhealth-crisis-resources%2Ftalking-to-children-about-covid-19-%28coronavirus%29-a-parent-resource) from the National Association of School Psychologists.
* [FAQs about coronavirus](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncdhhs.gov%2Fes%2Ffrequently-asked-questions-about-covid-19) from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.
* [School guidance on coronavirus](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncdhhs.gov%2Fdivisions%2Fpublic-health%2Fcoronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina%2Fcovid-19-colleges) from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.
* [Ways to Stay Healthy](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncdhhs.gov%2Fdivisions%2Fpublic-health%2Fcoronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina%2Findividuals-families) to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.
* [FAQ about the coronavirus](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Ffaq.html) from the Center for Disease Control.
* [More resources](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fpublichealth.nc.gov%2F) from the NC Division of Public Health.
* [Timely information](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dpi.nc.gov%2Fnews%2Fcoronavirus-guidance-schools-and-districts) pertaining  to schools from the Department of Public Instruction.
* [USDA program](https://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=84069671&msgid=2650326&act=AB7Q&c=927738&destination=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.usda.gov%2Fcoronavirus) to continue school meal service while schools are temporarily closed due to coronavirus.

All the Best,Harold Dixon, PresidentFrancelia Burwell, President ElectNorth Carolina Parent Teacher Association |

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| Contact: Mari Urness Pokornowski, Executive DirectorNorth Carolina PTAPhone (919) 787-0534Fax (919) 787-0569office@ncpta.org[3501 Glenwood Ave](https://www.google.com/maps/search/3501%2BGlenwood%2BAve%2B%0D%0A%0D%0A%2BRaleigh%2C%2BNC%2B27612?entry=gmail&source=g)[Raleigh, NC 27612](https://www.google.com/maps/search/3501%2BGlenwood%2BAve%2B%0D%0A%0D%0A%2BRaleigh%2C%2BNC%2B27612?entry=gmail&source=g) |

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