

March 13, 2020

The Road to a Better Tomorrow

Dear Dodgeland Parents, Students, and Staff,

Yesterday, Governor Evers and the Department of Health Services provided guidance regarding the COVID -19 pandemic. Additionally, we have been monitoring information provided to us from the Department of Public Instruction, CDC, and other state and national health organizations. The pandemic is a rapidly changing situation, and as such, we will do our best to communicate the impact of the COVID - 19 on our school.

While there are no confirmed cases of COVID - 19 in the Dodgeland School District, we need to do our part to prevent the spread of the virus.

Will school be closed? At this time, we are not closing school. If it would become necessary to close school, an announcement will be made via our normal procedures (e.g. text messages, phone calls, emails, our district website, Facebook, and local news outlets).

What happens if we need to close school? If we need to close school, learning will continue. We are very fortunate to have iPads for each student. Because we may need to close school on short notice, we ask that all Middle and High School students take their iPads home each day. Beginning Tuesday, March 17th, students in 3rd through 5th grade will also take iPads home. Teachers will use Monday's Professional Development Day to prepare online lessons. Pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade students will receive learning packets that will include reading and math resources.

The District uses a number of online resources which would be shared in the event of a closure, and teachers would be communicating with their students on a regular basis via Class Dojo (Elementary) and Schoology and email (MS/HS).

If school closes, we will have telephone hotline numbers available for parents/guardians to call if they are in need of lunches or internet access for their children.

How we are keeping students and staff safe? Additional custodial staff will provide more frequent cleaning of common areas, such as restrooms, the lunchroom, door handles, etc. The District has also purchased cleaning products recognized as an effective means to neutralize the virus. Additionally, there will be iPad cleaning centers set up around the middle and high school to clean devices. The elementary school students will continue to use their regular iPad cleaning processes in their classrooms.

What can be done to minimize the spread of the virus? Please help us keep our building clean and safe. If your child is sick, please keep them at home. If your child has been exposed to anyone with COVID - 19, we encourage you to self-quarantine your child. In order for us to excuse these absences, please call your child's building office to report the reason for his/her absence.

What is the current impact of COVID - 19 on our schools? All activities outside of the normal school day (7:30 AM - 3:30 PM) are cancelled until further notice. This includes:

- All before school, after school, evening, and weekend events are cancelled. Because there are no after school activities, the late bus will not run.
- All athletic practices and events are cancelled.
- All use of the building by the public is cancelled.
- Students will not participate in any out-of-district field trips.
- The presence of incoming visitors is highly restricted in the building until further notice. Parents are still able to drop off/pick up students.
- The Fitness Center will be closed until further notice.

## Known cancelled events include (list is not all-inclusive):

- Middle and High School Forensics season
- 4H Trivia Night March 21
- Chili Cook Off March 26
- 4K and 5K Screening March 26 and 27
- FBLA State Leadership Conference March 29 through 31
- FFA Awards Banquet April 2
- Professional Dairy Producers April 4 and 5
- Washington D.C. Trip April 13 through 17
- State Solo and Ensemble April 25
- Talent Show April 30
- Grandparents' Day
- Homework Help
- Academic and athletic award programs and banquets

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Please continue to monitor the district website, Facebook, email and text messages for additional information. We appreciate your cooperation during these uncertain times. As always, we are making decisions with the most current information available to us and with the safety of students and staff foremost in our minds. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Annette VanHook Thompson

**District Administrator**