



Las Animas School District RE-1

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RE: COVID-19 Virus Update

As we leave for Spring Break, I wanted to share information about our efforts to keep our schools and community safe in regards to COVID-19. Bent County Emergency Management held a meeting with numerous agencies to discuss collaboration and plans. Ultimately, it is our intention to provide consistent information throughout our community as we work together.

State Ordered Closure Criteria

The Governor's office and CDHPE has established a state ordered criteria for school closures. In a nutshell, the state has established guidelines that local school districts will follow in the event of a confirmed case.

- Single confirmed case close for 72 hours to facilitate cleaning and social distancing.
- Second confirmed case close for an additional 72 hours for testing and investigations.
- Third confirmed case close for a minimum of 14 days.

In our tight knit community, we would consider "any confirmed case" as grounds to close school for a set period.

Limiting the Transmission-The CDHPE Action Steps

To help facilitate the community work to limit the spread of the virus, the district will apply the following actions:

- Limit visitor access to the school. Each building will share more information concerning visitation to the buildings.
- Limit and/or cancel extra-curricular activities and large public events. Many activities have been canceled. Families will need to continue to follow our social media accounts to keep updated on cancellations over the next several weeks.
- Cancel or postpone trips that could expose students or staff to COVID-19.
- Monitor students and staff returning from travel areas with communities with confirmed cases.
- School closure.

Protecting Vulnerable Populations

We want to be mindful of families that have members who are elderly and/or have compromised immune systems that would make them more susceptible. We are strongly encouraging vulnerable family members to do the following:

- Avoid crowds and public gatherings-sporting events
- Avoid non-essential travel
- Avoid contact with individuals with any illness

School Sponsored Event

All extra-curricular events will follow the same action steps as above in the event of a confirmed case. Additionally, CHSAA notified districts that “Spring Sports” are suspended until April 6, 2020. This means no games and no practices, youth through high school, until that time. This will include all extra-curricular events. Coaches/sponsors will be communicating more with their students as we move forward.

Communications and Information

This is rapidly unfolding and it is important to for us to be able to communicate with our families. Our first line of communications will be posted through our social media page and easy text messaging to direct our families to the district website.

Thank you,
Ms. Goines