

LONEDELL R-14 SCHOOL DISTRICT

Success; Nothing Less!

Jenny Ulrich, Superintendent Brad Rucker, President of the Board Wayne Dierker, Principal Sarah Grus, Board Secretary

Lonedell R-14 Families,

The spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is on the rise across the country and the media coverage surrounding it is very intense. I want to reassure our staff, students and families that we are taking numerous steps to keep our children, families and employees healthy and safe.

As I am sure you are aware, some universities and colleges have cancelled classes, It is my understanding that several considerations were factored into those decisions that our 1<-8 school does not currently face. Those factors are: large numbers of international students or students traveling abroad, upcoming spring break travel and large lecture halls. At this time, we have not made a decision to cancel school, however we are closely monitoring the situation and keeping up to date through local, state and national health agencies.

We have issued frequent reminders to students to wash their hands and have been offering plentiful opportunities to do so. This has been found to be the single-most effective way to stop the spread of this or any virus. We have also encouraged the use of hand sanitizer that is available throughout the district. A precaution that you may want to consider is sending your child to school with a personal water bottle. We do have water bottle filling stations in the gym and cafeteria. This is not mandatory, but is something that we encourage.

We have contacted our bus company, BK Bus, to ensure extra cleaning is done on the buses. We are spending more time in the building doing extra cleaning of the doorknobs, handrails, chairs, paper towel dispensers, toilet bowl handles, etc. Our teachers are also helping out by using Clorox wipes, donated by families at the start of school year, to do extra wipe-downs of common surfaces throughout the day.

Office personnel are closely monitoring absenteeism and illnesses. Nurse Bielefeld is in contact with the state and local health department and staying up to date with information being sent out from CDC (Center for Disease Control) and WHO (World Health Organization).

Administration is closely monitoring all information being released from state and local health departments, as well as the CDC and other guiding agencies. We have met with Franklin County area schools to discuss a regional response. We are planning in case it does become advisable to close our facilities for a shutdown.

At this time, we are asking any staff member or student who travels internationally or who has a family member who has traveled internationally to contact the school district to discuss return to school. Depending on the destination, return to school may be delayed. Arrangements will be made on a case by case basis with guidance from health agencies.

Administration will work with your family regarding make-up work and other arrangements.

At this time, we are asking families to take these precautions:

- Keep students at home if they are sick and avoid close contact with others
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. (Proper hand washing is at least 20 seconds with soap and water.)
- If using hand sanitizer, it is most effective if rubbed in until dry,
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or the inside of your elbow when coughing and sneezing. Be sure to throw the tissue away immediately. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our students, staff, families and community healthy!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jenny Ulrich Superintendent Lonedell R-14 School District