

COVID-19 INFORMATION

Lansing School District continues to monitor the developments surrounding COVID-19 virus closely. It is extremely important to know the most accurate and timely information about this health concern.

The most up to date information can be found at [The CDC Website](#), [The Kansas Department of Health and Environment](#) or [on our USD 469 Website](#). The Commissioner of Education issued [guidance](#) on March 12, 2020 regarding the latest updates for Kansas school districts.

FAMILIES TRAVELING FOR SPRING BREAK

While the CDC and Leavenworth County Health Department continue to reinforce that the threat of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Leavenworth County is low, we know many families have questions regarding Spring Break travel. We encourage you to review the latest travel notices and recommendations from the [CDC](#). Lansing School District will carefully follow any and all recommendations from national, state, and local health officials. It is also important to mention that Kansas Department of Health and Environment recommends that anyone returning from travel to known “hot spots” for the virus and who have had no known direct exposure to someone with the virus should check in with their local public health department, monitor their health, and maintain social distancing. It is also important to note that neither the Kansas State Department of Education nor schools have the authority to quarantine anyone who isn’t exhibiting signs of illness.

SCHOOL PLANS AFTER SPRING BREAK

The CDC recommendations below about “Keeping the School Safe” was the guidance our administrative team and school nurses utilized to develop district plans upon return from spring break:

Keeping the school safe

Encourage your faculty, staff, and students to...

- Practice good hygiene**
 - Stop handshaking – use other noncontact methods of greeting
 - Clean hands at the door and at regular intervals
 - Create habits and reminders to avoid touching their faces and cover coughs and sneezes
 - Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, and handrails regularly
 - Increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning
- Consider rearranging large activities and gatherings**
 - Consider adjusting or postponing gatherings that mix between classes and grades
 - Adjust after-school arrangements to avoid mixing between classes and grades
 - When possible, hold classes outdoors or in open, well-ventilated spaces
- Handle food carefully**
 - Limit food sharing
 - Strengthen health screening for cafeteria staff and their close contacts
 - Ensure cafeteria staff and their close contacts practice strict hygiene
- Stay home if...**
 - They are feeling sick
 - They have a sick family member in their home

What every American and community can do now to decrease the spread of the coronavirus

Early Childhood	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will practice good hygiene as they enter the building and wash hands before they enter the classroom 2. Students will increase the number of times during the day that they wash their hands, especially after specials classes and before lunch. 3. Teachers and para educators will wipe off desks at least twice during the day. 4. No outside food for class parties will be allowed.
K-5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will practice good hygiene as they enter the building and wash hands before they enter the classroom 2. Student will increase the number of times during the day that they wash their hands, especially after specials classes and before lunch. 3. Food service has discontinued the share cart and will no longer allow students to self-serve any parts of the meal. 4. Teachers and students will wipe off desks at least twice during the day. 5. No outside food for class parties will be allowed.
6-12, New Beginnings, SSD, & LINCS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will be provided with hand sanitizer and/or directed to restrooms to wash hands before the start of the school day and at lunch. 2. Lunch areas will be spread out to allow more space for students to practice social distancing during this gathering time. 3. Food service has discontinued the share cart and are no longer allowing students to self-serve any parts of the meal.
District Wide	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will increase the amount of cleaning of shared services like doorknobs and hand rails during passing periods and class times. 2. We will continue to disinfect classrooms and commons areas nightly, including desks and shared areas. We have equipment that will allow us to disinfect an entire classroom's hard and soft surfaces in about 30 minutes 3. Education of students how to cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If they do not have a tissue, sneeze into sleeve and not hand 4. Parents should keep students home if they are sick. Students must be fever free with no medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

HOW DO WE DECIDE WHEN TO CANCEL SCHOOL/SCHOOL ACTIVITIES?

Lansing School District continues to monitor the situation closely on a daily basis. We also work closely with the local health department on recommendations specific for our area. These recommendations can change rapidly for areas that have new confirmed cases. When there are cases in our local community, we will follow the recommendation of the local health department on what the local schools should do to help mitigate the spread of the disease. At the time of this update, there has been no recommendation to practice the social distancing that has taken place in large arenas for our school sponsored events. We will continue to take our guidance from the local and state health officials on schools.

LARGE GROUP GATHERINGS CANCELED

On Friday, March 13th, the Leavenworth County Health Department has recommended canceling large group events and gatherings. They have defined a "large group event" as "250 or more people for any business, professional, social, cultural, entertainment, or other special event where people are not

separated by physical space of at least four feet (which is slightly longer than an average arm's length in all directions)."

Because of this, the Lansing USD 469 is postponing all spring activities until March 22, 2020. Updated information will be provided after spring break once we have more information.

PLANS IF LANSING SCHOOLS HAVE TO CLOSE FOR 2 WEEKS OR MORE

Lansing Schools will continue to take our guidance from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Leavenworth County Health Department as it pertains to schools being open. If we receive notice that we have to close schools for an extended period of time, the following chart outlines our plans for the continuation of learning. This is an assumption that we will close schools for students, but will be able to have adults in the buildings.

Early Childhood	1. Teachers will communicate skill practice via SeeSaw.
K-5	2. Teachers/school will communicate through Skyward email about learning opportunities to maintain the skill level of our students during this time. We will also post these opportunities by grade level on our website for access to parents of learning materials that are age/developmentally appropriate for the learner. 3. If parents do not have access to online resources, we will provide them access to materials that are age appropriate for them to continue learning at home. We will provide that location and time through our normal communication lines including Skyward, text alerts and our school website.
6-12, New Beginnings, SSD, & LINCS	1. Secondary students are very familiar with using their iPads for online learning. This will continue during a prolonged shutdown. The asynchronous communication of online learning during that time will be challenging for students. 2. Middle school students will continue with Google Classroom assignments provided by the teacher during the time of the closure. 3. High school students will continue with Canvas assignments posted during the time of the closure. 4. If secondary students do not have access online, we will ask them to contact the school to receive the materials needed to continue course work. Dropoff of the information will be done at one location as a drive-through type situation for those that need access. We will provide that location and time through our normal communication lines including Skyward, text alerts and our school website.

As a part of continued online access for families, I am happy to announce Charter Communications has offered free internet for 60 days. Information can be found at www.usd469.net

IF WE ARE CLOSED WILL WE HAVE TO MAKE UP THAT TIME?

Through a conference call with the Kansas State Department of Education on March 12, 2020, school districts were provided with three options if we have a forced prolonged shutdown. These options are NOT available if we choose voluntarily to close schools at the local level through the school board.

1. Make up the missed school days by June 30, 2020.
2. Submit a proposal to KSDE for the delivery of e-learning to be counted as seat time. (The Commissioner of Education mentioned that the requirements are stringent enough that school districts would not be able to meet this requirement.)
3. Submit a petition to the Kansas State Board of Education and the Kansas Commissioner of Education to waive the legally required minimum number of hours and days schools must be in session.

If we end up in this situation, the school board will determine which of these options we will choose as a school district.

FOOD SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES DURING SHUTDOWN

We are currently looking at possibilities to provide meals in locations of need. There are stringent requirements about being able to offer these meals in our community. We are working with KSDE and the USDA to explore our options.

Even while on break, Lansing Schools will continue to carefully monitor the spread of the coronavirus. Kansas State Department of Education is hosting daily webinars Monday-Friday on this subject to keep school leaders informed of current progress. Should additional communication be necessary, messages would be shared via email, text message and/or website post.