

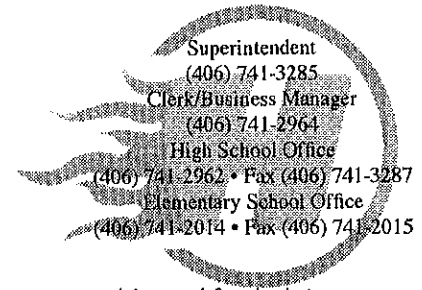
# Hot Springs Public Schools #14-J

Proudly Serving Students in Grades K-12

301 Broadway Street • P.O. Box 1005 • Hot Springs, MT 59845

November 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:



On behalf of Hot Springs School District 14-J, thank you for your partnership and for helping make education possible for all children in our schools during these difficult times. The importance of students' and families' health and well-being is never far from our minds. As a parent and grandparent, I know that having school buildings closed can be confusing and upsetting for students and families. However as superintendent of the district, my goal is to help all students stay safe and continue their learning.

On Friday, November 20, 2020, the district was notified that an employee had tested positive for COVID-19. The positive test was confirmed on Friday, November 20, 2020. The employee was last in person-to-person contact with Hot Springs students on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 3 days prior to the employee's diagnosis. If any staff or students are at risk of exposure, the Sanders County Health Department will be in contact with that person to determine a safe and appropriate course of action. It is still recommended that any person who feels ill seek out their medical provider for specific instructions. Hot Springs School District 14-J is in ongoing contact with the Sanders County Health Department and reviews the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance to complete cleaning the school and other related facilities.

Hot Springs School District 14-J will switch to remote learning as of Monday, November 23, 2020. Students should plan to be remote learning through next Tuesday, November 24, 2020, thus allowing time to lessen the chance of exposure to COVID-19 within our school community. Our teachers have been doing their best to support your children with remote learning during our first two "Virtual Fridays" sessions, which included online learning (using Chromebooks, phones, etc.), and any combination of resources supported by the school and teacher to help your child make progress in his/her education; teachers will contact student/parents on Monday. If students are in need of anything from the school, they may check in at either office between 8:30 am and 4 pm to get anything they may need. For more details about remote learning guidance and other resources that may be helpful during school closures, we have provided the "Virtual Learning Guidelines" and "Virtual Learning Expectations" inserts with this letter (posted on our website-[www.hssdmt.org](http://www.hssdmt.org), Facebook page, and sent home through US Mail). The district will switch back to in-person learning at the school on Monday, November 30, 2020, with a traditional school day planned. Do not hesitate to contact your teacher for further questions or concerns.

Thank you again for all you are doing to help your children learn, connect with their teachers, and continue important daily routines. If you have other questions for us not addressed here, do not hesitate to contact me at 406-741-2962.

Sincerely,

Gerald Chouinard  
Superintendent

*Hot Springs Kids Are Great!*