

GALLATIN COUNTY

COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7

Judy Kaegi, Superintendent
5175 Highway 13
Junction, Illinois 62954
(618) 272-3821

Dear Parents & Guardians of Gallatin County students,

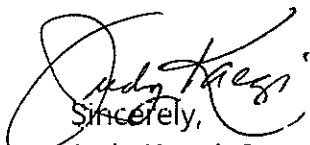
We continue to monitor the latest information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19). With multiple confirmed cases in Illinois, we want all families to be prepared should the virus be detected in our own community. We are staying in close contact with local health officials. I have complete confidence in these health and medical experts to make recommendations regarding the health of the children and adults in our community. Their guidance and advice will play a significant role in any decision we make in the event of a confirmed case locally. Please understand our school district leadership is considering all possible scenarios to protect the well-being of our students as we monitor COVID-19.

Please consider the following information to help you and your family be prepared:

- At this point, there has not been a confirmed case in our region. However, in monitoring the spread of this virus throughout the United States and the rest of the world, it is very clear things can change suddenly. Please continue to take preventive actions to keep your family safe and protect you and others from the spreading of viruses. The following guidelines are recommended:
 - If you are sick, stay home from school. Be fever free 24 hours.
 - Avoid close contact with those who are already sick.
 - Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with a tissue or the crook of your arm.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water.
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched and used objects and surfaces.
- In the event that Gallatin County schools are required to close, I encourage all parents to develop plans now for your children. Unlike winter weather-related closures, school districts in other states that have closed for COVID-19 have shut down for one or two weeks. We understand this would create a hardship for many of our families, especially if we are required to close with very little advanced notice.

- We will continue to share updated information with you through our phone app, emails, texts and social media on Facebook. We have created a new space on our website (gallatincusd7.com) with information on COVID-19. Our website and school app notification system will be your primary source for updated plans for supporting schools and students, including learning resources in the event virtual learning becomes necessary.

We will continue to stay in close contact with the Illinois State Board of Education as they are issuing guidance to Illinois' school districts. We want our families to be prepared for all possible scenarios, including an extended closure of schools, should COVID-19 become an issue locally. All decisions will be made in the best interest of the health of our students, staff and community. Again, please visit gallatincusd7.com and follow us on social media to stay informed with the latest information.



Sincerely,

Judy Kaegi, Superintendent