



CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 51

Encourage Excellence Every Day with Compassion, Commitment, and Community

Dear Central School District 51 Families,

As a school district, we have been closely monitoring the news and best practices regarding the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). After receiving a directive from Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker, we will close Central School District 51 to student attendance and utilize e-learning days from **Monday, March 16 - Friday, March 20**. Spring break dates will remain Monday, March 23 - Friday, March 27. The district will continue to be closed on **Monday, March 30** with a return date tentatively set for Tuesday, March 31, 2020. We will be reassessing the return date as needed based on the most current information available. More details regarding e-learning assignments will follow. The closure affects all school programming, including activities before and after school, all athletic and extracurricular practices and competitions, and all weekend events.

Student medication from both the Primary and Intermediate schools will be available for parents to pick up at the **CIS office** at the following times: **Monday, March 16 from 7:00am - 9:00am and 4:00pm - 6:00pm**. Medications that are not picked up will be available once school resumes.

The coronavirus is thought to be spread via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge you to speak to your child about the following prevention measures:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.

The symptoms of coronavirus are similar to the regular seasonal influenza and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, and coughing. Some people with coronavirus have reported additional symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. In some situations, the virus can develop into pneumonia. Parents, students, and staff members exhibiting flu-like symptoms are asked to contact their primary care physician for further instruction and notify the Tazewell County Health Department via their COVID-19 line at 309-929-0294. Individuals who need medical care for any other reason should call their medical provider to report their illness prior to seeking care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital to verify their ability to treat additional cases.

It is important for communities to work together to prevent a sharp spike in very ill COVID-19 patients. This is vital to keeping hospitals and medical facilities at a capacity that is manageable and maintaining the ability to administer the care needed to treat this illness and other medical emergencies.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly..

Sincerely,

Superintendent, Central School District 51
309-444-3943 | dheidbreder@central51.net