



March 14, 2020

Santa Fe R-X Community:

Our district is currently using the guidance of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for our decision making in regards to COVID-19. In the State of Missouri currently, all decisions regarding school closures are being made locally. **At this time, Santa Fe will return to classes on Monday, March 23rd.**

The Santa Fe R-X School District is committed to the health and safety of students. On Friday, March 13th, I-70 Conference Superintendents met with Lafayette County Health Department (LCHD). From those discussions, along with guidance from the the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Santa Fe School District and all I-70 schools, have made the following determinations for the safety of our students, staff members, and patrons:

All non-critical activities are postponed until Friday, March 27th. These include:

- Student Field Trips out of the District
- All extracurricular student contests and competitions (Academic, Fine Arts, and Athletic)
- All out of district professional development for staff

(please note that all decisions are subject to administrative review of the individual district)

The intent is to limit instances where our students enter other communities as well as opening our doors to visitors from outside communities. *Activities that only involve Santa Fe students, such as practices and clubs, will continue as scheduled, as our students are already in contact with each other on a daily basis.*

Prior to March 27, I-70 administration will gather again to discuss scheduling of activities beyond March 27. When additional information becomes available, or changes are made to the above decisions, families will again be notified.

Self-Quarantine

If you have traveled domestically to any of the containment zones in **Washington State, New York, or Massachusetts, you need to follow self-quarantine guidelines and contact the Superintendent's office.** Santa Fe students or staff who travel to areas identified by the Center for Disease Control as Level 3 advisories ([these areas](#)), or have members of their household who are returning from these areas, should also self-quarantine. Self-quarantine includes staying home for 14 days after exposure and receiving doctor's clearance prior to



returning to school. Our schools will work with any students who will need to self-quarantine after Spring Break to support their ongoing learning.

Prevention and Hygiene

We urge all families to continue the practice of maintaining habits necessary to stay healthy during any cold/flu season.

Steps you can take to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the flu and the common cold are:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home while you are sick
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Students should be kept home until they are fever free (100.4 or less) for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces, especially when someone is ill
- Not sharing drinks, water bottles, eating utensils, or cell phones with others

For more information about the symptoms, treatment, and prevention of COVID-19, go to www.cdc.gov/covid19.

Please be assured that we will continue to share updated information with our Santa Fe family moving forward. Thank you for your help in keeping our community healthy.

Sincerely,

**Derek Lark
Superintendent
Santa Fe R-X School District**



Resources:

What is COVID-19 and what symptoms to look for? Visit [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](#)

COVID-19 fact sheet is available on the [Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website](#)

Suggestions on how to discuss COVID-19 with your child, the [National Association of School Psychologists](#) has a great resource.

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE): [Coronavirus Information](#)