



March 15, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, and Community:

Shelby-Rising City Schools will continue to stay open and school will resume on Monday, March 16th as scheduled. The District, in cooperation with the state CDC and Four Corners Health Department, will continue to monitor information and make adjustments to support the strategies to mitigate exposure and transmission of COVID-19.

What changes are already in place?

- If travelers are returning from Level 3 Countries (Europe, China, South Korea, Japan), or from CA, WA or NYC, the CDC is implementing Self-Quarantine and Monitoring for 14 days. You can not attend school if this is the case.
- Public access to school facilities is being restricted to students and staff only, with the exception of some specific parent situations. This includes the fitness center and public library. Fitness Center memberships will be extended for everyone equal to the time it is closed to the public.
- School events being cancelled or postponed will be listed on the school website and it is important that everyone check ahead and often as it will change rapidly with decisions being made by the District, other schools, and the State Associations. State FBLA, State FFA, District/State NSAA Speech are already events that have been cancelled or postponed for this spring.
- Students, Staff, and Families with high risk health concerns including (1) Transplants (2) Respiratory Conditions (3) Immune Deficiency are recommended to stay home and work with the school to make alternate plans if a student.

How do I keep up-to-date on information from S-RC?

We will use our Thrillshare program to send updates through phone calls, text messages, mobile app alerts, and social media. I strongly encourage ALL STAKEHOLDERS to have the mobile application on your phone to get information immediately.

How is decision-making being done at S-RC?

Every decision that is being made regarding school closures, activity cancellations, or anything related to COVID-19 is after consultation and recommendations from the State of Nebraska CDC and Four Corners Health Department. The District is participating in regular conference calls to stay up-to-date on facts related to our situation.

Is S-RC preparing for a school closing?

If we are required to close by recommendation of our local health department or the State of Nebraska to close, we would do so. The board of education, administration, and district staff will work to develop a contingency plan for a school closure last two weeks or less. S-RC will use its communication system to immediately notify parents/guardians of such a decision.

If the school closed, what will learning and other services look like?

While the District could explore several online learning options, the decision was made NOT to attempt to provide education to students in this manner for a short term (two weeks or less) closure. The District will consider offering other services to students and families based on the length of closing.

What happens if a shutdown would last more than two weeks?

At this time no plan is in place for a shut down exceeding two weeks. The District will work collaboratively to address all of the scenarios created by an extended closure. Guidance from the Nebraska Department of Education and our State/Local Health Agencies will be necessary as well.

Will my child have to make-up the school days if a shut down occurs?

The Department of Education has the power to grant waivers to the instructional hour requirement, but they have yet to commit to anything at this time. Any decision about making up time will be done collaborative with the Board of Education and guidance from the Department of Education.

What if I totally disagree with the decision to keep school open?

For families that think it is best to keep their child home, you may do so. Let their school know and we will do our best to provide them timely assignments and support. Students will not be exempt from any school work or due dates while we are in session. Attendance in these situations will be marked as "Parent Request" and will be dealt with in a reasonable and practical manner.

What should I do if my child is sick?

Please keep your child home if they are sick. This guidance isn't any different than what is always communicated. District policy for fever and illness are still in effect and have not changed. Please see the fact sheet sent earlier for symptoms of COVID-19 if you have concerns about those symptoms.

What is being done to the building?

We have restricted outside access to the building to ensure we can keep up with keeping high traffic and shared areas clean and sanitary. We will not have to make many changes to the current cleaning protocols, however, there will be areas of priority that will receive more attention than normal.

Please remember that our website and mobile application are the best sources of updated information from S-RC. We are in uncharted territory with COVID-19 and the response requires flexibility and working with local health professionals to make the best decisions possible.



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