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Lockwood R-1 School District

Clay Lasater, Superintendent
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www.lockwoodschoools.org

March 16, 2020

The Lockwood R-1 Schools will be closed **March 17-April 3**.

The greatest priority of Lockwood R-I District is the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and entire community. As our local, state, national, and international communities assess the spread of COVID-19, the Lockwood R-1 School District continues to receive ongoing guidance from the local and state health departments, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). After careful consideration of this guidance, and in consultation with area superintendents, local medical professionals, and the Dade County Health Department, I am writing to inform you of the closure of the Lockwood Schools beginning Tuesday, March 17 through Friday, April 3. All extra-curricular practices, completions, parent/teacher conferences, and other after school activities are canceled during this time as well.

It is anticipated that we will welcome back staff and students on Monday, April 6 to resume normal, daily operations. However, we will continue to assess the evolving situation and to consult with local and state agencies, and we are committed to sharing updates as they become available. Updates will be communicated via SchoolMessenger notifications, our social media sites, and our school website, lockwoodschoools.org.

This was a difficult decision that was not considered lightly. We recognize the challenges school closure presents for students and families; however, it is important for our community to remember that these measures were enacted out of an abundance of caution and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. As Dr. Peppard, Superintendent of Schools at West Grand School District in Colorado stated, "In the end, it will be impossible to know if we overreacted or did too much, but it will be QUITE apparent if we under-reacted or did too little." School closure facilitates social distancing, and social distancing is critical in the upcoming weeks. Thank you for your patience and support of our efforts to be proactive during this unprecedented time.

Respectfully,

Clay Lasater

Superintendent, Lockwood R-1 Schools